

THE JOURNAL

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Inside Young performers make most of talents, earn top scholarships [A5]

Arts Shotgun Players present 'Abingdon Square' [C3]

Albany may buy property for park

■ City agreement with Caltrans is the first step in a 'long process'

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — The City Council authorized an agreement with Caltrans Monday that says the state agency will complete the

initial work in a plan to convert a weed-strewn patch of land next to the Interstate 80 freeway into a grassy park and ball field with parking.

The agreement is the first step in a plan for the city to purchase and then develop the land, provided money can be found.

"It's a very long process and we're just taking one more step

in that process," said Ann Ritzma, assistant city administrator. "It commits the city to doing an appraisal and seriously looking at buying the land."

The cooperative agreement says Caltrans will prepare the site by grading it so it slopes less and doing work to control soil erosion. Caltrans will pay for the work at a cost of \$513,000.

After grading is completed, Caltrans and the city will jointly appraise the property and negotiate a price for the city to buy the land, a 4.5-acre parcel located between Pierce Street and Washington and Cleveland avenues.

"We have it identified in our Capital Improvements Program to develop it as a park," said Ann Chaney, community development

director.

The piece of land was freed up about three years ago with the completion of a project that switched the freeway on-ramp from Pierce Street to Buchanan Street.

Caltrans proposed a sound wall as a mitigation measure,

See PARK, Page A8



GREGORY URQUIGA/STAFF
HAMMA (left) and Alan Hamm erect a tri-band antenna in Cesar Chavez Park for the East Bay Amateur Radio Society's annual field day last Saturday in Berkeley.

Mapping through mapping

A 24-hour contest at Berkeley's Cesar Chavez Park showcases amateur radio operators' ability to reach tap-tap someone

By Kara Shire

STAFF WRITER

Those who ham for a hobby think their fun is all a game, but when catastrophes hit

ham radio operators also know that their century-old gadget becomes a highly prized potentially life-saving commodity when catastrophes hit. "Earthquakes, fire and an emergency that comes up is terrorism," said John Gate Charlie Billones, 47-year-old El Cerrito resident who's been fiddling with ham radio since the 1930s.

"We can get through to communicate when others can't," he said. "It's an emergency preparedness tool that comes without practice. Ham has field day. The 24-hour event is a nationwide emergency preparedness drill. Ham radio operators and the country set up shop for nothing but generator or power to see how many they can contact in a 24-hour period. Field day began at 8 a.m. Saturday, and wraps up at 8 a.m. today.

The annual event brings in thousands of East Bay Amateur Radio operators to Cesar Chavez Park, where they connect 25-foot antennas and work hours inside camping tents, listening to the musical tones of Morse code or the static of ham radio across the world. Ham radio has come far in the days of cryptic codes and home-brewed transmitters from salvaged television sets and Band-Aid tins.

Today's operators match their knowledge with computer power, a combination that makes the din of traditional ham radio for the silence of digital communication. Tony Travlos, a Kensington resident whose teen-age daughter and wife are also licensed radio operators, uses a cutting-edge technology called PSK31 to communicate with radio operators around the world, all through his laptop.

"It's pretty cool," Travlos said. "If you lose your laptop, you're done."

See RADIO, Page A8



DEAN COPPOLA/STAFF

Tending the garden

STAFF GARDENER Alison Cardinet scoops leaves out of a pond at Blake Garden in Kensington on Wednesday. The garden, part of a 10-acre estate owned by the University of California, is open to visitors weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Located at 70 Rincon Road in Kensington, the garden is closed on weekends as well as the upcoming July 4 holiday. For more details call 510-524-2449.

Cities will offer full slate of July 4 activities

■ Pancake breakfast? Pet show? Dunk tank? El Cerrito and Albany have 'em all, and more

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

Albany and El Cerrito will continue traditions of celebrating the nation's independence by offering entertainment, games, food and more this July 4.

In Albany, the day will begin with the Albany Lion's Club

sponsoring a pancake breakfast at 8 a.m. at the Veteran's Building at 1325 Portland Avenue. Carnival games, a martial arts demonstration, a pet show and more activities will follow at Memorial Park at Portland and Pomona avenues from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

In El Cerrito, there will be food and craft booths, live music and more at the city's community center, 7007 Mooser Lane, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. In addition, KEGC, the El Cerrito High School radio station, will host an

eclectic mix of more than a dozen live music acts, plus food and drink at Cerrito Vista park, Pomona Avenue and Mooser Lane.

"A lot of people are repeat vendors, and they do well every year, and people look forward to coming down," said El Cerrito Fire Chief Mark Scott, the head of the committee that organized the El Cerrito celebration. "It's very crowded during the day and it's a well-received event."

See FOURTH, Page A8

CELEBRATION

WHAT: Fourth of July celebrations in El Cerrito and Albany

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in both cities

WHERE: The community center at 7007 Mooser Lane and Cerrito Vista Park, at Pomona Avenue and Mooser Lane in El Cerrito. And at Memorial Park, at Portland and Pomona avenues in Albany.

INFORMATION: Call 215-4450 for El Cerrito and 510-524-9283 in Albany.

Folk presentation will reveal Chinese culture

By Paula King

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — When Kay Berger sings along with the Dragon Singers, memories come to mind. The El Cerrito resident has heard Chinese folk songs like "A Bamboo Stick," "Sunset of My Village" and "Wandering Son" since childhood.

She and other members of the Dragon Singers hope to recall similar fond memories for some while introducing parts of the Chinese culture to others during Saturday's local celebration, "Taiwan and Beyond: Chinese folk music and dance."

The event, sponsored by Celebrating Culture and Community,

showcases some traditional and unique aspects of Eastern culture. The Dragon Singers are one of several groups to perform.

The Dragon Singers have been in existence for nearly 30 years, locally performing Chinese music to help strengthen relations between the East and West. This makes them the oldest Chinese choruses in the Bay Area, and their legacy continues today with a dedicated group of music-loving friends.

Berger attributes the longevity to the non-profit organization's hard-core volunteers, who care and commit themselves whole-

See CULTURE, Page A8

Area fire departments learn 'the drill'

By B. Roscoe

STAFF WRITER

A drill designed to test the readiness of Mutual Response Areas — formed in the aftermath of the 1991 Berkeley-Oakland Hills Firestorm to coordinate fire response by neighboring fire jurisdictions — took place Saturday near the Mineral Springs picnic area in Tilden Regional Park.

Berkeley Assistant Fire Chief Kevin Revilla, who was duty chief on Saturday, said the location was "a perfect site for the drill," citing a well-defined area for the fire scenario.

An estimated 25 pieces of fire equipment, including engines, grass rigs (lighter, off-road vehicles) and some 70 East Bay fire-



TUE NAM TONG/STAFF

CAPT. JIM DEATHERAGE of the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory Fire Department hooks a lateral hose up to the main hose during the annual simulated fire drill at Tilden Park last Saturday.

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INSIDE

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■ A desirable school district helps push Albany home demand through the roof. Page A3

Schools column

■ Computers are a valuable teaching tool — but not the only one. Page A6



Martin Snapp

■ Courageous people aren't always the ones at center stage. Page A3

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You don't have to look far to find examples of courage and inspiration

COURAGE COMES in all forms. There's the courage of the cops and women in New York, who saved thousands at the sacrifice of their own lives.

There's the courage of our young men and women in Afghanistan, who are trying to keep this from ever happening again. There's the courage of sexual-abuse survivors, who are reopening their own painful wounds to help bring the perpetrators — and those who covered up for the perpetrators — to justice.

And then there are those who demonstrate courage simply by showing up every day. People like Gina Niemeier, my favorite waitress at Walker's Shop in Albany.

For 29 years, ever since she graduated from Albany High, she has been Walker's heart and soul. She's the one who organizes surprise birthday parties for elderly customers who otherwise wouldn't have anyone to celebrate with.

She's the one who greets every customer by name, the way you know what you want before you order, the one who remembers who likes extra popovers and who likes extra cream on his apple pie.

She's the one who always takes a way to cheer up a co-worker when things get backed up in the kitchen or when a customer is getting too cranky.

Walker's has always been one of my favorite restaurants. It's down-home, unpretentious and wholesome with a capital T. The food isn't the kind Mom used to make; it's the kind you wish Mom had made.

But what really makes



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

Walker's special is the special people who work there. And Gina is the best of the best.

But in March she was diagnosed with an extremely rare kind of cancer called mesothelioma. Malignant cancer cells are attacking the protective sac around her internal organs.

It's hard to say what her prognosis is because this type of cancer is so rare. Most doctors have never seen a case in person. She's been to six different doctors and given six different opinions. But the medical textbooks say the average life span is six months after diagnosis. And she was diagnosed three months ago.

And yet she shows up for work every day. And she never betrays an ounce of self-pity. I'm sure she must be crying, but she does it in private.

Hemingway famously described courage as "grace under pressure." Who embodies that quality better than Gina Niemeier?

Living with a life-threatening disease is often made more difficult because other people don't know how to deal with you. They're afraid of saying the wrong thing, so they usually do the worst thing possible. They don't say anything at all.

Perfectly understandable; but to the person who's sick, it feels like people are abandoning you just when you need them most.

That's what's happening to Gina. To be sure, her longtime co-workers, like Kim White, Shelly Kaldunsky and Andrea Brunetti, are loyally rallying 'round. But other people are pulling away.

"I told one customer, who had lost his wife to cancer," said Gina. "I thought he'd be able to give me some good advice. But all he said was, 'I'm sorry, I don't know what to say to you,' and he shut down. After that, I didn't tell anyone else."

So why is she allowing me to tell you now? (And I never would have written this column without her permission.) Two reasons:

First, she'd like to see her old customers again. She's working at Walker's Friday and Sunday nights. If you haven't been there for a while, stop in one of those nights and say hi.

Second, she's angry because her type of cancer is getting zero attention from either the government or the private sector.

If you have a rare disease, there just aren't enough of you to make a voting block large enough to scare the politicians. Or a market big enough to attract the drug companies.

"If I had a 'popular' cancer, like breast cancer or colon cancer, they'd be pouring money into finding a cure," she said. "Not that I begrudge breast cancer or colon cancer patients anything; I hope they're all

cured tomorrow. But there ought to be some resources for the rest of us, too."

Yes, I know the argument on the other side: the greatest good for the greatest number. And it makes sense, at least on paper.

The problem is that this is real life, where it's people, not numbers, who are affected. If you're on the short end of that equation, you're out in the cold. It makes a mockery of our professed belief that every life has value.

It's time to radically rethink our health care system — specifically who gets what. Right now, it's just a matter of clout. That's no way to run the decent society we all want America to be.

I was complaining about the same thing a few weeks ago when I wrote about the short shrift being given to people with another rare disease — ALS, better known as Lou Gehrig's Disease.

Until we as a society get our act together to find the cure to rare diseases like mesothelioma and ALS, the best you and I can do is donate to private organizations.

In that spirit, let me remind you about the ALS Association's annual "Walk To D'Feet ALS" around Lake Merritt this Sunday. Check-in starts at the Gazebo at 9 a.m.; then we'll begin the walk itself at 10.

It's a dumb name, but a great cause. See you there.

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-273-9039 or e-mail him at catman@california.com.

Mini-riot at school leads to six arrests

Police blame territorial battles for the brawling at El Cerrito High

By Kara Shire
TIMES STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Police arrested six El Cerrito High summer school students Wednesday after a lunch-time scuffle morphed into a mini-riot involving about 200 teens.

The students were booked on suspicion of fighting and vandalism before being released to their parents. Sixteen students were suspended after the outbreak.

Police said Wednesday's melee was a sequel to the five or more fights that broke out Tuesday, the first day of summer school.

"It was getting bad," said West Contra Costa Police Officer Brian Busatori. "No guns, no knives, no crowbars, just fighting. I felt like I was a guard at a prison yard."

Fighting broke out about noon and moved across campus to "the pit," a large outdoor area behind the main school building, police said.

About 20 students were involved in the fighting, while the rest of the students crowded the scene. Police said at least one boy threw a garbage can from an upstairs window.

School officials ordered teachers to lock their classrooms while police moved in to make arrests.

"There was chaos for a good 30 minutes," said El Cerrito police Cpl. Donald Horgan, who was called to the scene when the crowd grew too big for school district police to handle.

Horgan said he arrived at the campus to find himself "facing 200 people and (wanting to) make sure they didn't rush us."

Police and school officials blamed the fighting, in part, on territorial battles that spark when teens from different schools are brought into the same classroom.

"You have all these different neighborhoods that don't get along coming into one spot," Horgan said.

Many at the school said tensions had been unusually high since summer school started on Tuesday. School staff members said nearly a dozen small fights and "jumpings" took place that day alone.

"It's pretty bad," said janitor Ron Jefferson. "They need to get a handle on this."

School and police officials said they will increase police presence at the campus today to try to stave off additional fighting.

Richmond police loaned their police wagon and El Cerrito and Kensington police will be on the scene for maximum "visual presence."

Principal Vince Rhea is also trying to recruit more student supervisors to the campus.

Reach Kara Shire at 510-262-2798 or kshire@cctimes.com.

Books hooked this friend of the Albany Library

DURING THE RECENT Friends of the Albany Library book sale, Steve Margulis could be seen, it seemed everywhere: pushing a cart piled high with boxes of books, giving directions to the young people hired to stock the tables as books were sold, conferring with Hartung (who has been in charge of the book sales for most of us can remember) and advising buyers on the books that interested them. Steve knows books. His love for them is what brought him to the Friends of the Library, and his wide knowledge about the books themselves has made him a star in the organization.

Steve knows what interests people. He has a good idea of what will sell and to whom. When not working, he wanders the paths of the booksellers, particularly those in Berkeley, browsing, talking with dealers and collectors.

And when someone hears of the private library being donated, they often think of Margulis, and through him, of the Friends of the Albany Library. This way the Friends has received several libraries just this year, including that of William White, who wrote popular mysteries, science fiction and articles under the name of Anthony Boucher.

In this the Friends also received thousands of records from a private collection recently, leading to its first-ever record sale.

Margulis was born and brought up in the small town of Granite City, Ill. Granite City is close to St. Louis, and all Steve says about it is that it was usually at least 95 degrees in summer and very humid. His father had a small shop where he repaired shoes, and his mother was a secretary. When



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

they finally left Granite City they moved to Philadelphia, where his father became an insurance salesman and his mother continued to work as a secretary.

Margulis was in the Army when he came to California, where he fell in love with two things: the weather and UC-Berkeley. When he was discharged, he enrolled at UC and earned a degree in film studies.

He had long been interested in film, but by the time he finished, his interest had diminished. After that, he said, "I wandered."

He was living in Albany when he decided to volunteer with the Friends of the Library. Suddenly he was hooked. And he's been a dedicated volunteer. He loves to visit bookstores and works in one of them, Shakespeare & Co.

He also continues to spend long hours going through donated books for their sales. Besides books, his time is taken up with work, home maintenance, volunteering and pets: a dog, two cats and a salamander.

Do you know people, places or

groups in El Cerrito, Albany or Kensington that would make good subjects for this column?

If so, please write me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 510-525-4585. My e-mail is orgenser@aol.com.

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STEVE MARGULIS is a dedicated volunteer with the Friends of the Albany Library.

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson

EDITORIAL

Betrayed by books: a freedom threatened

It's no surprise that UC-Berkeley was honored by the Association of Research Libraries this week as having the top-ranked library at a public university in the United States. It's an outstanding facility and a boon to students, researchers and anyone with an urge to crack open a book and learn something.

And it's a great privilege to live in close proximity to such a vault of knowledge, not to mention the tomes found in the various other public libraries in the area.

But hold on, bookworm — these days there's something a little rotten about this apple.

In an alarming report this week, it was divulged that the U.S. government is now looking through library records of people it perceives as possible terrorist supporters. It's the first widespread examination of library records since the 1970s, when such searches were stopped because of the potential for abuse.

Knowledge may well be king, but apparently the FBI wants to make sure that those who visit the emperor have no clothes, at least in front of the government.

It's completely legal, thanks to the Patriot Act, which allows searches of any business record in the interest of protecting the nation against terrorism. That includes libraries, bookstores, computer files — even grocery records could be accessed should it be deemed useful. The same act bars businesses from saying what was sought, and it doesn't require any proof that the person is working with a foreign power.

Extra security measures are understandable. But vague behind-the-scenes snooping with no outside oversight gives federal agencies a powerful tool with a huge potential for abuse. It also pushes complicity a step farther away from the crime itself; it's not what you're doing or plotting, it's what you're reading and, in the end, *thinking*, that could spell trouble.

Granted, it's doubtful the average law-abiding citizen would ever face such scrutiny. And it's not quite Big Brother — there's no red light that flags a library user when a particular book is checked out. But First Amendment freedoms ensure that viewpoints and information can be shared without the threat of persecution. The FBI examinations seem like a step in the wrong direction.

An atmosphere of paranoia following Sept. 11 saw the Patriot Act go through Congress with nary a problem. We've all had some time to think since then. Maybe it's time we reviewed the powers vested in the government. We should defend our freedom, not give up freedom for defense.

NO EXIT

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SAINT BILL OF UNION CITY RECEIVES THE FAST FOOD STIGMATA



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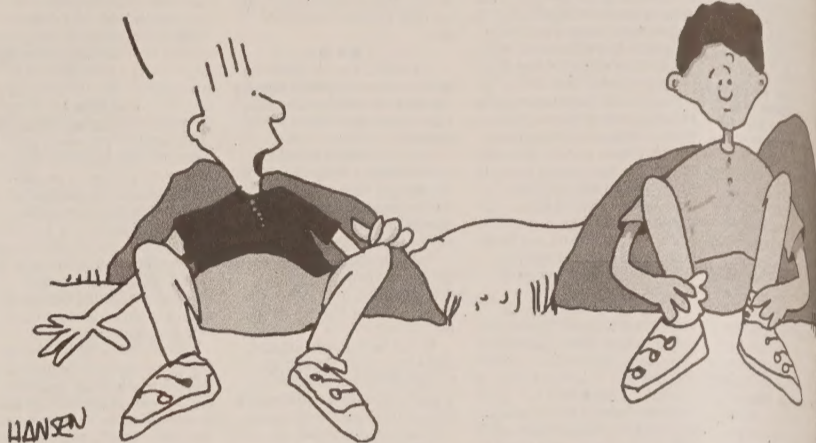
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David Farrell, Albany school board president: 510-528-9209

CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY

IT'S SOMETHING ABOUT A TEA PARTY,
AND A KING DIDN'T GET INVITED,
AND WE HAD A WAR.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Blame it on land cost

The basic problem to achieving affordable housing is the cost of land sites. There are only so many that can be used. Economics 1A teaches that if there is a fixed supply of something and the demand for it increases, the price will rise.

The land cost is a very large portion of the cost of housing (for a person or a business). Its price is boosted by the increase in population and the increase in economic activity that accompanies it.

Unfortunately, we allow this price increase to fall into the pockets of those who own land titles, even though the owner did nothing to cause the increase. That was caused by the actions of the society.

Also unfortunate is the use of taxpayer dollars, taken from our individual earnings, to subsidize housing for the needy. If, instead, taxes were applied to the full market value of land sites, the cost of those sites would fall dramatically. That, in turn, would lessen the overall cost of housing, allow folks to live closer to where they work, thereby reducing the need to drive so much, and do away with speculation in land values.

George Amberg
El Cerrito

Terrorists or heroes?

What makes someone a hero or terrorist depends on one's perspective.

Were the revolutionaries of 1776 terrorists? To us Americans, they are our greatest heroes. To the British crown, however, they were insurrectionists, guilty of treason.

Captured colonists, such as Nathan Hale, were executed. In the course of a savage colonial war, thousands of civilians died. Loyalists to the British were routinely attacked and murdered, their homes burned, etc.

During World War II, the French resistance also practiced acts of sabotage against their Nazi occupiers, blowing up military targets and killing civilian collaborators. To the Allies, they were heroes, but to the Nazis, resistance fighters were terrorists.

What is heroism or martyrdom for one community is the other's terrorism, and vice-versa.

There are few black-and-white issues in this world, but most of us still believe in truth and justice. To discern the higher truths in any conflict, we have to scrutinize the greater context: Who is persecuting whom? Who is being routinely deprived of life, liberty and property? Which side is inflicting the most harm and loss of life?

When you can honestly answer these questions, then you will understand what it means to be Palestinian.

Irvin Collins
Berkeley

Collins is a former Hindu monk who has lived in Israel.

Tribute to coaches

Thank you for the great article on the retirement of James Morehouse from El Cerrito High. He's one of the most genuine people I've ever met.

I knew and respected him when I was a student at El Cerrito High but became more aware of his gifts when I became a coach there. His tireless efforts to support all sports and the students who participated in them is something I'll never forget. He's touched many lives with his

strong faith and his positive attitude. He will be sorely missed.

I would also be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the retirement of Frank Milo as head football coach at El Cerrito. While attending his recent retirement dinner, I saw many of the old guard from when I attended school in the '70s. It resembled a "Who's Who" of local sports.

People I grew up idolizing and respecting, such as, Larry Quirico, Tom Kinard, Emery Phillips, Rich Abel, Dennis Abel, Jim Erickson, Don Wilson, Bill Jones, Dolly Felix and Jim Pappakostas, turned out to honor an individual who put in more than 30 years in the district.

These people, and others who attended, epitomize all the good things about high school athletics. But beyond that, these people are educators of the principles and values that influence young, impressionable teen-agers.

I hope their retirements are only the passing of an era and that those coaches and administrators who are left can build from their examples and carry on their traditions of success — and doing it with class.

Bill Hardin
Richmond

Usual Bush-speak

I believe President Bush and his buddies putting together a number of agencies responsible for security in one department is a good move in theory. But they have not set up the infrastructure needed to assure accountability.

So this paper reorganization is designed to fool the people at the same time the president has failed to rein in the vice president, attorney general and talkative secretary of defense.

Bush's support of his excellent secretary of state is less than enthusiastic. It is the usual Bush-speak.

Dan Freudenthal
El Cerrito

Budget priorities

If Sacramento wants to cut a budget that's \$20 billion in the red, it should start by rescinding some of its giveaways to foreigners rather than freeing criminals.

In January, the UC regents voted to give taxpayer-subsidized in-state tuition to illegal aliens, a foolish generosity that should be immediately canceled. Programs benefiting illegal alien foreigners should be the first to be axed.

It was reported that the cost for the first year would be \$2.3 to \$4.4 million. While not a huge amount when dealing with tens of billions, parents struggling to educate their own kids probably don't appreciate being forced to subsidize aliens by \$11,000 per student per year. Fairness should be part of the calculation.

Taxpayers already pay for 13 years of schooling for illegal alien children. In

1994, Californians voted by 59 percent against benefits for aliens, including 12 education. Gov. Gray Davis took initiative by sending it into rigged ratification — Proposition 187 was not taken down by the courts, despite previous history to the contrary.

Prop. 187 should be reviewed by courts. There is serious money being saved by poor-mouthing Mexican and longer use California social services its full trough.

Brenda Wilkins

More details, please

I am extremely disappointed in the information printed in the May 31 Albany police blotter regarding the slanders along Dartmouth Street and Brighton Avenue.

The summary did not adequately describe the destruction and associated costs to the victims. The number of vehicles damaged was not included, nor the fact that license plates were also stolen. On Dartmouth, at least 11 vehicles were vandalized.

It is a disservice to readers to present such an abbreviated summary. Albany residents deserve to know that their environment is not as safe and secure as they would like. The Albany police should be aware that "several cars" with their tires should not be dismissed as minor. The costs for my car were more than \$400. Including lost wages from my car, the costs are not insignificant. For a city on a limited income, these losses could be a hardship.

Perhaps residents of Brighton Avenue may also wonder what their street has in common with Dartmouth. Maybe the similar acts of vandalism that occurred in these two areas would be preventing destruction in the future.

Please, the next time times are such a few more details.

Tommiel M...

Terrorism is war

Terrorism is among the heinous phenomena to crop up in the American vocabulary. What is it but war? As committed by a "terrorist" organization are still acts of war.

The Sept. 11 attack reminds me of European history, when armies often fought four-square to each other, and when guerrilla tactics came on the scene. The entrenched powers cried, "Unmanly!" Guerrilla tactics were very effective. "Surgical" guerrilla tactics are the cutting edge of warfare. "Terrorism" isn't this just another in the evolution of warfare?

The fact is that the United States company have set in motion powerful posing forces. Suicide bombings, the basins, the Oklahoma City bombing, and the World Trade Center, we see the perspective of these events are we marginalizing them, and making about morality, legality, and righteousness goes hand in hand with violence and breeds more desperate violence.

We crave security and order in the midst of this madness and our government institutes a "war on terrorism" — a war on war. I don't buy it — more stupid and self-defeating.

Patricia...

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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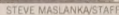
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STAFF WRITER

...ular was introduced to
... as a boy while sitting
... of the drummer playing
... praise band at his church.
... he had a knack for it
... 7 years old was sitting in
... drums.
... when I got old enough

He plays drums at restaurants and clubs around town and will be performing at the upcoming Black Expo 2002 in Oakland and

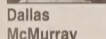
Muccular thanked his parents for never pushing him or complaining about his playing and he thanked God for helping him achieve his goals. He also praised El Cerrito High School's music



He said he practices drum ba-

STAFF WRITER

He developed as a dancer

Dallas
McMurray

He dances with two dance studios — one in Hayward and one in El Cerrito — and was taking classes at El Cerrito High School.

His mother, Janet McMurray, sees success in her son's future, though she has mixed feelings about him going to school in Southern California. She's proud

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com.

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American news too narrow, media critic contends

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — Most of the media Americans read, watch or listen to for their news have a narrow point of view influenced by a hunger for profits, the former executive director of a leftist media watch group told the Democratic Club here Tuesday.

But there are more places to get news, said Andrea Buffa, who once headed Media Alliance, a nonprofit media watchdog group with 3,000 members.

About 16 members of the progressive El Cerrito Democratic Club, which regularly meets to discuss national and international issues, heard her speak.

The club's executive committee decided this time to hear a talk on media issues, according to member Betty Brown.

Several members were receiving news from other sources

and were getting a different picture of the world than that gleaned from American newspapers, television and radio.

"We thought dealing with it (current events) from the perspective of encouraging people to get a broader approach to the world might be useful," Brown said.

American newspapers, television and radio news programming has become less hard-hitting, with less investigative news being produced; there's a lack of diversity of voices in the news, and the poor and minorities are being marginalized, Buffa said.

It's the advertising dollar that creates profits, and the news is directed at the advertisers' target audience — people with money, who would be more interested in stories about new technology than about welfare, she added.

The flow of information is controlled by fewer companies, Buffa said. For example, the Telecommunications Act of 1996 allowed corporations to own several radio or television stations in a single market and so the information flowing out of them is controlled by fewer companies. Media giant Clear Channel owns more than 1,000 radio stations nationwide, as many as eight stations in some markets.

As a result, news departments — generally the least profitable at a radio or TV station — shrink and there are fewer hard-hitting investigative news stories or public affairs programming.

The upside, Buffa said, is that there are more places where people can get their news, especially through the Internet. And a few outlets, such as progressive radio station KPFA 94.1 FM, offer nonmainstream points of view in

their coverage.

There are some bright spots in the media picture, though, Buffa said, including the recent Federal Communications Commission's ruling to allow "micro-radio" stations of 100 watts or less to exist. This means that nonprofit organizations, activists, schools and others to get their voice heard on the airways, Buffa said.

Also, she added, CNN just apologized to a group that was regularly watching and criticizing its coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"People who are persistent in their criticisms, especially well-documented criticisms," she said, "can effect change."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Computer valuable teaching tool — in the right context

I'VE USED COMPUTERS for many years and many purposes, and am fascinated by their potential. But I've seen them used with varying degrees of effectiveness in the classroom and continue to struggle with how best to use them in education.

I'm not alone. The 1999 Report of the National Reading Panel says use of computer technology for reading instruction shows promise but adds that more research is needed. "In sum, the panel is encouraged by the reported successes in the use of computer technology for reading instruction, but relatively few specific instructional applications can be gleaned from the research. Many questions still need to be addressed."

I made some gains in my understanding of this issue last week, oddly enough, in the parking lot of my sister's church.

Sherwood Forest Free Will Baptist in El Sobrante runs a school on site. The school is planning to incorporate computer-based instruction in the coming school year. The firm they are working with, Alpha Omega Publications, has an RV set up to demonstrate the system, and it was at the school to give parents and staff a chance to try the materials and ask questions. The system Sherwood Forest will use is called Switched-on Schoolhouse and is designed for Christian schools and home schools.

Representatives of the company and school said the advantages of computer-aided instruction include allowing students to work at their own pace. This is particularly helpful when a teacher is responsible for students in more than one grade. But even within a grade there is a wide range of abilities, and a child can be at one ability level in one subject and another level in another, they noted.

I asked what happens if the student can't read the information on the page. The software,



BETTY KING

the company rep said at third-grade level, that, he said, the software learning to read and doing a lot of work on a computer. Good work.

But my favorite part of my question was the statements of the company about human interaction questions that can be answered by changing among pre-set choices.

The computer doesn't take the place of the teacher, it takes the place of the textbook. When that way, this is a discovery of a few years ago how much more encyclopedias are like book kind, with video clips, links to sites and Web sites, and dates. So this is a

The computer doesn't take the place of the teacher, it takes the place of the textbook. When that way, this is a discovery of a few years ago how much more encyclopedias are like book kind, with video clips, links to sites and Web sites, and dates. So this is a

In a way, it's some any other educational teacher needs to know what it's good for must be accomplished way.

Betty King, a teacher in the West County Unified School District, is a member city editor of the County Times.

EL CERRITO CHAMBER NOTES

Business group opposes city's cinema acquisition

By Sewall Glinertnick

The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce's board of directors has come out in strong opposition to the plan for using public money to purchase and restore the El Cerrito Theater.

In a letter to City Council members and other city officials, Chamber President Marge Collins wrote that the chamber directors do not think the city's economic development and redevelopment agency should be "in the business of funding uneconomic, financially unsound projects. As the plan has been presented to the public, in the opinion of the board restoring the theater is just such a project."

Several small movie houses have opened in El Cerrito in the past and failed for lack of customers, Collins wrote.

"In the Board's opinion," she added, there is not the slightest chance of finding an operator willing to pay the substantial rent apparently needed to repay the city's proposed \$2.8 million dollar expenditure — thereby permanently landing the city in the movie business.

To commit millions of dollars in public money up front, without first having an operator and a firm commitment for adequate parking, Collins wrote, is putting the cart before the horse and is "bad business practice."

"While the Chamber Of Commerce will continue to work with the city for the betterment of the business community," she wrote, "we certainly will not encourage our members to participate in any fund-raising for a project in which the discovery of a few abandoned artifacts is the foundation for an uneconomical expenditure of several million dollars."

NEW MEMBERS: Attorney Veronica Panella and payroll and human services consultant Lori Kanacle have joined the Chamber of Commerce.

Panella has lived in El Cerrito since she was 11 months old. She has a law degree from King Hall at UC-Davis, and has set up practice in Suite 212 in the Bank Of The West Plaza Professional Building at 11100 San Pablo Ave.

Specializing in family and elder-care law, she has been doing pro bono work and freely admits she would not be averse to getting more clients.

The family law portion of Panella's practice covers divorce, paternity, child custody and child support cases, while the elder law portion covers such items as restraining orders against family members, nursing home abuse, conservatorships, advanced health care directives, will and trust.

With assistance from her mother, Carmen Panella, the firm is equipped to deal with Spanish-speaking clients.

Panella can be reached at 510-233-0572 (telephone), 510-233-0590 (fax), or on the Internet at lawlhemis@yahoo.com or www.lawlhemis.com.

Lori Kanacle is relationship manager for the credit card and payroll processing firm of Heartland Payment Systems.

A provider of professional advice on how best to handle payroll and human services, Kanacle points out that Heartland tailors its services to fit the exact needs of its clients.

"The number of businesses that can use my service is unlimited — including those with just one employee," she says. "Our customers get more services for their money, including assistance with payroll tax deposits and filing, payroll and human services software, and advice on alleviating tax liability."

While her firm is just entering the payroll market in Northern California, Kanacle has been a resident of this area for the past three years, and has been active in the payroll services business for five years.

She can be reached at 510-235-8539 (phone or fax), or by

e-mail at lori.kanacle@ehps.com

RENEWED: Pacific Bell has become the latest member to show its support for the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce by extending its membership in the organization for another year.

RETIREMENT PROGRAM: Blaine J. Davis, the Edward Jones investment representative in El Cerrito, will host a free program at 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. on July 16 for individuals planning to retire within the next few years.

Those attending the program, which will be held at the local Edward Jones office at 11760 San Pablo Ave., Suite B, will learn ways to help create a steady retirement income check as well as how to keep medical bills from eating away their savings.

For more information on the free July 16 program or to reserve a seat, contact Blaine or Tami at 510-237-3495. For those unable to attend either of these programs, additional viewing opportunities will be made available.

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The Marin Avenue Traffic Simulation Study will be presented by Kolve Engineering. This computerized program simulates the effects of traffic calming measures on Marin Avenue, which include converting Marin Avenue from four travel lanes to three travel lanes and two bicycle lanes. Other alternatives include keeping four lanes and installing stop signs and extending traffic calming measures from San Pablo Avenue east to The Alameda (in the City of Berkeley).

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD ON:

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Fourth

FROM PAGE A1

Twenty-five-cent children's games, more live music, entertainment and food will be found at the community center, and 1,500 T-shirts commemorating the day will be given out.

Community non-profit organizations will sponsor food booths at the event.

Radio

FROM PAGE A1

Which is exactly why so many homes cherish their historical, if not complicated, language.

"The Morse code guys are the

ones who are going to bail us out when the big one hits," said Texx Woodworth, a 44-year-old radio operator and vice president of the East Bay Amateur Radio Club.

That's because the technology needed to transmit Morse code

doesn't require fancy electronics or oodles of electricity.

For Billones, who taught amateur radio at Kennedy High School in Richmond in the early 1990s, it's in those bare-bones radios capable of transmitting no more than a few dozen milliwatts

Pizza, soft drinks and hot dogs.

The events, which have been held for years in both cities, are organized by residents together with city staff. Most of the costs are paid through donations.

Committees were set in both cities, with Scott and city child-care supervisor Brad Griffith acting as point people in Albany and El Cerrito respectively.

"The main aim of the fair," Scott said, "is for the community to have a good time."

that his heart lies.

"I get more of a kick talking to somebody across town (using the Morse code) than talking to someone across the world" on the phone, Billones said.

"It's a nostalgia kick."

New study will shape Contra Costa growth

By Theresa Harrington

STAFF WRITER

Elected officials, members of the public, businesses and community organizations are busy developing three potential scenarios for growth in Contra Costa county as part of a countywide Shaping Our Future growth study.

"We're blazing new trails with this project," said Don Blubaugh, the recently retired Walnut Creek city manager who was hired as a consultant to manage the study.

At several public meetings held around the county during the past few months, participants pored over maps and marked areas where they thought development should occur, highlighting land they thought should be preserved as open space.

Blubaugh will oversee project consultants from Fregonese Calthorpe and Associates as they compile information from the public workshops and assess whether submitted ideas meet housing, school and transportation needs. Costs and environmental impacts will also be evaluated.

More public workshops will be held in February and March 2003, and potential strategies should be ready for review by the public, the county Board of Supervisors, and city councils the following May or June, Blubaugh says.

"By then, they'll know the consequences of how we grow," he says. "Part of the plan would be to suggest what each of the 19 cities and the Board of Su-

pervisors need to do to im-

plement the plan." Throughout the study, Blubaugh will report to the Shaping Our Future committee, composed of city managers, the county administrator and the director of the county's transportation authority. Blubaugh, who retired from the county in 1998, represented Walnut Creek on the panel.

Overall responsibility for Shaping Our Future rests with the policy committee, which includes one elected representative from each city or town in the county, as well as county supervisors.

Public input is essential in tackling difficult issues, such as providing jobs closer to neighborhoods, creating more affordable housing and easing congestion, said Policy Committee chairwoman Julie Pomeroy, who represents Clayton.

"Some people are also saying we're going to try to put something in somebody's back that they don't want. But we will be forced to do some things that they don't want to do," Pomeroy said. "What we hope is that we'll end up with a plan that will improve the quality of life for all of us in Contra Costa. And I believe that community members will be able to make that plan what that is. At least, we're really important that we get what those answers are."

Drill

FROM PAGE 1

fighters — from stations in Berkeley, Oakland and Moraga/Orinda and from fire response units at Lawrence Berkeley Labs, the East Bay Regional Parks District and the East Bay Municipal Water District — converged on the designated location and began the exercise at about 9:40 a.m. Saturday morning.

"Tilden Park is one of our

newer MRAs," said Revilla, noting that it crosses the Contra Costa County line and that's why this drill included units from the Moraga/Orinda station.

Since the California Department of Forestry Service declared the beginning of the fire season on June 3, being ready to battle wild land fires is more vital than ever. "Our objectives are to test our communication, which is always the weakest link in an emergency, as well as our

equipment," said Revilla. There's also a need to test the command staff's abilities, he noted.

Information describing the drill's scenario is given to each unit upon their arrival at the MRA. An example of a scenario, said Revilla, is that the fire has ignited "five acres of light fuel grass and is heading up the hill ..."

The controller of this year's drill was Chief Bob Goodyear of the Berkeley Fire Department. It was his job to determine when

the objectives of the drill had been met and when the drill was finished. And a post-incident analysis was conducted by the fire staff after the drill ended around noon.

"It went really well. We met our objectives," said Revilla, adding that there's always room for improvement. "I was very satisfied with the way the command staff was able to work together."

Culture

FROM PAGE A1

heartedly. In addition to singing folk music, the group also incorporates Western operatic arias and spiritual tunes into their act.

"Our goal is to introduce Chinese songs to local residents, especially the younger generations," Berger said.

In addition to songs in the Asian languages of Mandarin and Taiwanese, the Dragon Singers occasionally choose songs in German and Japanese. They have been practicing diligently for this weekend's show.

Saturday's audience can also

look forward to dancing from the Chinese Association of Hercules' folk dance group and more music courtesy of the Kee Lung Jen Ai youth band, traveling all the way from Taiwan.

Wearing vibrant red and gold costumes, the local folk dance group features a dozen girls from 8 to 15 years old. They will present an authentic fan dance with Chinese music playing in the background.

According to association member Grace Au, the dance troupe for young girls has been perfecting their dancing at local schools, banquets and city events in Hercules.

The Dragon Singers will bring

songs of romance, heartache and nostalgia to the concert, including "Flower and the Youth," "I Love You, Northern China" and "Broken Dream Along the River Bank." An English translation of each song will be provided to nonnative speakers in the audience.

"About 90 percent of our music is pure Chinese song," said member Susan Kuo.

From his days teaching music education nearly a decade ago in Taiwan, El Cerrito resident Oscar Chuang remembers the popular brass band, Kee Lung Jen Ai. Now, Chuang is the local owner of Oscar's Piano Studio and teaches children and teens a love of musical expression.

Today, the group is filled with 45 young elementary school musicians who play native Taiwanese folk songs about the joys of life.

As part of a cultural exchange, the group will play and dance to songs like "Waiting for the Spring Breeze," "Northwest Rain" and "Sunset Glow." The youth band is also planning to be a part of the Fourth of July celebration at the Alameda County Fairgrounds at 2:30 p.m. on Independence Day.

"I want this event to enhance the local community, gap the cultural differences and promote friendship between these two countries," said Chuang. "We are using this event as a mediator."

Plaza

FROM PAGE A1

Tem Kathleen Perka and resident "M" Self began a postcard mailing campaign containing the names and addresses of people who wanted to see the store locate here.

Perka said she had been in contact with Trader Joe's since 1999, responding to a resident survey showing the store was the business most desired in El Cerrito, second only to a department store.

The closest Trader Joe's is in Emeryville and beyond that, Con-

cord. Many residents said they wanted a store closer to home.

El Cerrito resident Jessie Shepherd said Trader Joe's never disappoints with its products, citing blueberry preserves and chicken. And the staff is friendly and helpful, she said.

"I recommend it to all the lucky people in El Cerrito," Shepherd said. "I feel like it's a big blessing for us."

The 11,000-square-foot store will sit next to Longs Drugs on the south side of the plaza, displacing three stores that will be moved elsewhere, Shaffer said.

It will take about 10 months to renovate the building and then for the store to move in and open, he added. It's hoped Trader Joe's will open by next spring, said Pat St. John, Trader Joe's spokeswoman.

"We look forward to a successful store," St. John said.

Regency Centers is still looking for a tenant for the approximately 33,000-square-foot vacant building formerly occupied by the Albertsons Grocery Store. Tenants are also being sought for 8,000 square feet of retail space spread throughout the plaza, as

well as additional office space.

The plaza is about 90 percent occupied, Shaffer said.

"It's doing very, very well," Shaffer said. "I mean, every tenant is doing extremely well."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com.

Park

FROM PAGE A1

where the Pierce Street on-ramp used to be, but there was a problem. It wouldn't diminish the sound for surrounding residents who spend most of their time in the second story of their two-story homes, Ritzma said.

The sound wall idea was dropped in 2000 after residents were polled and said they favored a park there. Ball-field advocates have also come out in favor of the park, which would have a ball field for youth sports, most likely soccer, as well as a "passive" open space area.

However, "there's not a formal design for the park as yet," Chaney said. "There's a concept. Also there'd be a parking area down by Cleveland (Avenue)."

But with an estimated cost of \$2.5 million to purchase and develop the land, the city may not be able to afford it. It's possible Caltrans could do the grading and the city would have to back out of the plan due to lack of funds, council members pointed out at the June 24 council meeting.

"The city does have very limited funds and multiple needs," said Councilman Jon Ely, adding that the city may eventually not want to buy the property after all.

City officials said the purchase and development of the park can be paid for in part by money earmarked for city park projects through Measure R, as well as state grants.

"We have to go through appraisal process first to see if the council is even interested," said Ritzma.

The park could also be placed on a list of projects funded if a homeowner tax is passed by voters this November. The council will consider whether to go forward with placing the tax on the ballot at its July 1 meeting.

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12:30 - 1:00 p.m.	Pittsburg Heritage Dancers
1:00 - 1:30 p.m.	Filipiniana Dance Troupe
1:30 - 2:00 p.m.	Mohit Sadik Belly Dance Troupe
2:00 - 2:20 p.m.	Pittsburg Heritage Choir
2:45 - 3:30 p.m.	Pittsburg Allstars
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.	Generation Gap Swing Band
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	The Stacey Wilson Band Jazz and R&B
6:10 - 7:30 p.m.	PHD's Salsa and R&B

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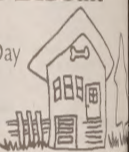
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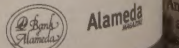
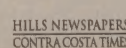
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2002 SUMMER SEASON

Parents buy into the Albany way

■ Cramped, high-priced homes are considered real estate gems by families desperate to qualify for school district residency

By Kara Shire
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — They tell their stories over coffee and on the phone, in hushed tones tinged with disbelief.

There's the neighbor who saw the 800-square-foot bungalow next door sell for \$425,000 — two years ago. There's the real estate agent who talks of a "serious fixer" that reeled in 22 offers.

"This is the worst I've seen it in six years, by far," said agent Chris Ehlers-Hardie.

"It's the highest prices, it's the most offers, it's the most competitive."

And there's no end in sight. In Albany, where most agree the schools drive the "insane" housing market, parents desperate to get their kids in one of the area's top-performing school districts are gladly plunking down half a million dollars for a tiny two-bedroom house without a yard or a view.

Neither are they balking at aggressive local fund-raising efforts that ask parents to crack open their checkbooks to help save treasured school programs.

As Albany's homes grow pricier, the traditionally blue-collar community that boasts picturesque bungalows on cramped but garden-rich streets is growing increasingly upper crust.

"These are people who will work very hard, they are very tenacious about getting to a place like Albany," said David Farrell, the school board president and a resident for 15 years.

"So they will live in less space, they will live next to the BART line, just to get into Albany schools. Albany is not a rich town, but I think we're beginning

to see that potential."

Hopeful Albany homeowners come to this East Bay city from other urban spots, mostly Oakland, Berkeley, San Francisco and neighboring El Cerrito.

The median income here is \$54,919, up 57 percent from a decade ago when census figures show the median income hovered around \$35,000.

Housing prices in Albany jumped nearly 40 percent between 1990 and 2000. Rents rose 55 percent in that same period.

For people who already own in this burgeoning hamlet, the higher prices go, the better. Those without that foresight find themselves on year-long searches that end, if they're lucky, with a house even the real estate agent is likely to admit is overpriced and undersized.

The result, increasingly, is a community that is less Honda and more Volvo — filled more with "young up-and-comers," as one longtime resident put it, than nesting families.

"We bought in, so the higher (home prices) go, that's fine with us personally," said Robert Menzimer, who moved his family to Albany 12 years ago.

"But we're always concerned about the overall picture. You have to be concerned about the plight of people who are trying to buy in."

When Rocky Offner launched a search for the perfect house eight years ago, he was torn between Albany and the upscale Kensington neighborhood next door, which is in the West Contra Costa school district.

In the end, Offner and his then-wife chose a Kensington home "more beautiful and nicer than anything we've seen in Albany."

"I just couldn't stomach living in one of those Albany houses," Offner said. "If you're talking yard square footage and house quality, they're grossly overpriced."

But Offner is a father now,

"This is the worst I've seen it in six years, by far. It's the highest prices, it's the most offers, it's the most competitive."

— Chris Ehlers-Hardie, real estate agent



ROCKY OFFNER and his fiancée, Mary Beth Ray, are house-hunting in Albany, a small city with blue-collar roots where housing prices are skyrocketing largely because people want to enroll their children in highly regarded Albany schools.

and he finds himself ready to give anything for one of those puny, albeit quaint, Albany homes if it means his kids can go to school there.

"We are (moving) specifically because of the schools," Offner said. "We need Albany residency."

When Offner gets in — if he gets in — he's likely to face another round of sticker shock. With the Albany school district undergoing a drastically tight budget year, parent-led fund-raising has kicked into overdrive.

There are weekend fund-raisers, phone-a-thons and plenty of peer pressure to write that check — and make it a big one. The suggested donation to the financially troubled schools this year? A mere \$350 per student.

"Part of being here and having your kids in school in this town is you've got to give this extra dough," said Menzimer, who's also a member of Albany's school fund-raising giant, SchoolCARE.

"They do that in Piedmont, they do that all over the place, and we've got to do that, too," Menzimer said.

SchoolCARE formed last year in response to deep budget cuts that threatened much-loved programs. The group raised \$180,000 in its first year. This year it brought in \$200,000, a tidy sum that could save extracurricular programs, such as art and the library, from the budget ax.

Still, SchoolCARE is continuing its push, hoping to generate \$200,000 more before the start of the school year.

Parents are also giving to the Albany Music Fund, which has raised nearly \$70,000 since its creation just three months ago. "People are awakening to the reality of it," Menzimer said. "And they're being really generous. This is an unexpected expense for everybody, but I think they're getting used to the message that this is the way it has to be now."

Indeed, parents here, even newly relocated ones or those without much extra cash, say they are happy to give both time and money if it will help their child's education.

"For me, it's not a big shock," said Yung Ha, a mother of two, including one child in Albany's celebrated special education program, who spent nearly two

years house-hunting to find a home eastern to find a good school that's going to be a special education program one of the best. And help."

Nancy Ulmer, an applicant for more than a year, says her city's income appeal has more intangibles — a community, close-knit schools and Berkeley — it does home square."

"You don't come to a house," Ulmer says here to buy a commo-

Kara Shire covers Albany. Reach her at 510-300-1111 or kshire@comcast.net.

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Real Estate & Home

Friday supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

Friday, June 28, 2002

Section B

Harpo & Talbert pose the question: What makes a home really a home? [B3]

Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B15]



DENNIS EVANSKY

Charm in a wonderful neighborhood

On a quiet tree-lined street in the Claremont Hotel, the new family home at 14 Bridge Road in Berkeley awaits a new family. The location affords you the best in the area. Close to both the Claremont Hotel as well as the marvelous shops on Domingo Street you will find Peet's, the Red Garden, and Rick & Anne's along with other wonderful shops. The present owners have had the home for eight joyous years.

This charming English-style home has many Craftsman details. The home boasts leaded glass windows, hardwood floors, a fireplace and sunroom that overlooks a garden with mature plantings. There are wonderful details in this 1925 home, including crown moldings and Craftsman built-ins. A balcony in the master bedroom overlooks a stunning garden designed by a well-known Berkeley landscape designer Jim Dixon.

The home will be open Saturday, July 6 and Sunday, July 7 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The home will be open Saturday, July 6 and Sunday, July 7 from 2 to 4 p.m. To learn more, call Lillie Braudy at Prudential California Realty at 510-644-5262.

Sophistication in the Oakland hills



PACIFIC UNION

Award-winning designer Phillip Perkins and master builder Edward Lee teamed up to create a sophisticated new home at 13486 Campus Drive in Oakland.

Vibrant colors, soft natural light, scenic views and sculpted spaces highlight this 6,020 square foot, six-bedroom, four-and-one-half bath home.

The stunning foyer opens to soaring ceilings and large windows that frame the serene courtyard. Exquisite terrazzo tile is laid in a field of black granite.

Distinctive fireplaces, cabinetry, and tile work designed by Claudia Ellinghaus and Robin



See HOME, Page B4

Prudential California Realty
www.PruWeb.com
56,218 listings

Indicates Homes Being Held Open

OAKLAND/PIEDMONT



Charming Traditional \$2,500,000
This distinctive family home is situated on an expansive corner lot with lush gardens, 5 BR, 5.5 BA.
Helen Mar
(510) 428-0900

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$1,295,000
Marie Way. Stunning architectural new const., 4 BR/3 BA, gourmet kitchen and master retreat.
www.davidotero.com
(510) 339-9290

Claremont Hills \$985,000
Newer 4 BR/3 BA home with gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors and serene hills view.
Yehuda Ben-David
(510) 339-9290



Open Sun. \$950,000
Fremont Ct. Private one-level home with panoramic bay views on one acre parcel, great area, horses ok. Retreat.
Glass/Sabine
(510) 326-5055



Open Sun. \$739,000
1147 Winsor, Piedmont. Spanish home looking for love! 3+ BR/1+ BA. Near schools, quiet street, hardwood.
Vickie Robinson/
Aleso Gourhan
(510) 428-0900

Quiet Large Retreat \$639,000
780 Glendome Cir. 5 BR/3 BA, views! Contemporary decorator's delight/24 years new!
Chad Roceach
(510) 849-3711

Sequoiah Hills \$619,000
Immaculate 4 BR, 2+ BA home in a private secluded location.
Demetrius Wilson
(510) 834-2010

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$535,000
8180 Surrey Lane. Private 3 BR/2 BA w/gourmet kitchen and large back area w/pool. 1st open!
Myrtice Wong
(510) 339-9290



Open Sun. 2-5 \$527,000
815 Creed Rd., Trestle Glen. Adorable storybook house, 2 BR, basement, bonus room, formal dining, yard.
Dolores Thom
(510) 834-2010

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$519,000
2965 Carlsen. 1st time on market in 38 years. 3+ BR/3 BA has Bay views, new roof & clear pest.
Kriss Makris
(510) 339-9290

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$499,000
5508 Broadway. Charming, airy 3 BR/2 BA traditional w/built-ins and hardwood floors.
Vikki Landes
(510) 339-9290

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$432,000
473 Rich St. Gorgeous Temescal home! Spacious & bright! 3 BR/1 BA, gourmet kitchen, hardwood, fireplace, formal dining.
Janet Kaplan
(510) 845-0200



Open Sat. & Sun. 2-4 \$410,000
831 55th St. Rare and charming 2++ BR w/in-law cottage. Freeway, BART.
Reeching Prize
(510) 913-8084

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$375,000
8016 Greenly Drive. 3 BR/2 BA w/delightful yard and versatile spaces.
D. A. Hammond
(510) 339-9290

City Lights & Sunset! \$360,000
You are entitled! 1608 sq. ft., stunningly modern, 2 BR/2 BA apt. in convenient, prestigious bldg.
Caroline Slotemaker De-Bruine
(510) 845-0200

Open Sun. 2-5 \$329,000
996 - 62nd St. Super value! Adorable 3 BR, 1 BA bungalow w/updated kitchen & bath, detached garage, large backyard.
Barbara Hopper
(510) 845-0211



Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$389,000
2814-2816 Central Ave. Charming traditional duplex in desirable Alameda location. Each unit 1 BR/1 BA, formal living & dining rooms, & yard.
Terri Bates Walker
(510) 428-0900

Open Sun. 2-5 \$1,350,000
29 Eucalyptus. Elegant Claremont Mediterranean with gorgeous Bay view! Solarium. 4++ BR/2+ BA.
Julie Lehman
(510) 845-0211

Two Houses on One Lot \$635,000
Both 2+ BRs, some hardwood floors. Owner's house with remodeled kitchen & dual pane windows. Large 8820 sq. ft. lot. Near 4th St. shops.
Charles Turvey
(510) 433-9803
(510) 849-3711

Walk to U.C. Berkeley \$564,000
Charming 1930 Mediterranean has 3 BR/2 BA; high beamed ceiling & deco fireplace in LR; hardwood floors; freshly painted.
Claudia Brown
(510) 527-9800

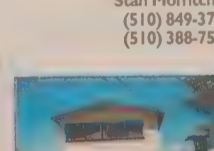
Open Sun. 2-4 \$525,000
1187 Keith. Really charming Berkeley Hills 2 BR/1 BA retreat w/large landscaped yard & garden.
Michael Friedman
(510) 845-0200

North Berkeley Jewel \$525,000
2+ BR, 1+ BA in best North Berkeley area. Walk to Live-Oak Park, Gourmet Ghetto, shops & Peet's Coffee. Lots of original charm & details.
Nedda Cheung or
Wendy Louie
(510) 849-3711
(510) 869-4542
(510) 273-9306

Close to Campus \$399,000
2 BR, 1 BA townhouse. Fireplace, deck, skylights. Walk to campus. Parking - one car.
Camille Rogers
(510) 845-0200

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$375,000
2311 B 7th St., Berkeley. Magically remodeled townhouse-style condo. 3 BR, 3 BA renovated w/fine materials. Granite counters, brand new appliances, new dual pane windows. Tiled baths. Large fenced yard & enclosed front patio. Minutes away from 4th St. shops & restaurants. Parking for 2 cars.
Stan Momtchev
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(510) 388-7566

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Berkeley \$325,000
2+ BR, 2 BA, spacious, two-story contemporary. Room for daycare use.
Henriette Lanier-Green
(510) 834-2010

Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$310,000
555 Pierce #1302, Albany. 2 BR, 2 BA, magnificent Bay views! Corner unit.
Anna-Majja Middleton
(510) 526-5143

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
Beautiful Custom Home Near Golf Course \$829,000
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Open Sun. 2-5 \$479,000
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(510) 845-0200

El Cerrito Starter \$335,000
3029 Carlson Blvd. Cute 3 BR/2 BA home on corner lot. New paint in/out, updated kitchen/bath.
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716 Waterford Pl. 1BR upper end unit overlooking woods, park and creek.
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CHARLIE COOK

STEP BACK IN TIME while enjoying modern conveniences in a Craftsman-style wonderland.

Craftsman jewel in heart of Rockridge

■ The home at 6040 Chabot in Oakland is a Craftsman-style aficionado's dream come true

RED OAK REALTY

Here's an incredible opportunity to live in one of the best neighborhoods in Oakland. This is a one of a kind Craftsman-style Brown Shingle.

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A perfect blend of Old World charm and New World convenience, the home boasts many original Craftsman style built-ins and fixtures that will instantly

transport you back to the days when quality mattered.

The living room and dining room are spacious with beautiful box-beamed ceilings, Craftsman style lighting fixtures, built-in cabinets and benches (even a built-in desk!), a fireplace and hardwood floors throughout.

There is a full bathroom on each level. The second floor bathroom also has a built-in cabinetry and it is home to a very friendly tiled shower. The bedrooms are large and well situated. The second floor also has a lovely covered porch facing the pool.

The grounds have been landscaped to ensure beauty while maintaining privacy. The breakfast room was added to the kitchen in

the 80s and in keeping with the craftsman motif it boasts a wonderful sash of windows that face an expansive deck, hot tub and pool (yes, a pool in Rockridge).

The only rooms that have been updated are the kitchen, the breakfast room and the bathrooms, everything else is just the way it was in the early part of the last century.

The plumbing and electrical systems have been upgraded the house is bolted to the foundation and wired for DSL.

The location of this house is as pedestrian friendly as it gets. There are several shops, great restaurants, coffee shops, Market Hall, two grocery stores, Zachary's Pizza and two elementary schools nearby. Rockridge Bart is a couple of blocks away so access to San Francisco is minutes away.

The home—offered at \$1,200,000—will be open this Sunday from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Take a virtual tour at www.charliecookproperties.com or to schedule a showing by calling Charlie Cook at Red Oak Realty 510 280 2163.

Replacing old windows?

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Prudential El Cerrito welcomes new agents

EIGHT NEW SALES ASSOCIATES from Prudential California Realty's El Cerrito office graduated from Prudential's comprehensive two-week training at the company's Pleasanton campus. The unique program includes financing, technology, inspections, ethics, legal marketing and relocation as well as helping clients understand the paperwork and process of home buying and selling. Pictured being congratulated by Marcia J. Schwartz, office manager and David Cobo, CEO are Francis Waltz (rear), Susan Riggie, John Chaney Jr., Kathleen Wilson, Egidia Bollini and Sima Abedini. Also pictured (insert) Melanie Higgins, left and Carmen Patao. Give these exceptional newcomers a call at 510-527-9800.

Here's how to sell your home

■ Twenty-nine vital tips available

PRUDENTIAL CALIFORNIA REALTY

Local homeowners can now avoid stress and have easier access to important information thanks to Dave and Carla Higgins, two top-producing Prudential agents. The Higgins reveal ways consumers can get the most out of their home sales in a new special report. Dave and Carla recently announced that they are offering this report, "Twenty-nine Essential Tips That Get Homes Sold Fast (And For Top Dollar)," to anyone considering selling a home in the East Bay.

The Higgins based the report on their own experience as a real estate professionals, giving readers an in-depth look at many of the most important decisions that face

sellers in today's competitive real estate market.

"Publishing this report has given us the opportunity to share the knowledge we have gained through helping many area home owners over the years," Dave Higgins said.

Providing valuable information

"Every year we see so many sellers make the same mistakes in marketing their homes and ne-

gotiating their sales," Higgins said.

"It's so frustrating we could have had more power to the chance to illustrate several things to better achieve less hassle."

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RICHMOND VIEW



WONDERFUL CONTEMPORARY WITH VIEWS
1936 Carquinez Ave. (Open Sun. 2-4). 3BR, 1.5BA on main level, paint in & out, gleaming refinished hardwood, formal dining room, doors to deck, huge living room w/fireplace, new creamy beige vinyl. Approx. 1745 sq. ft. of living area. Wonderful private view. www.carlielazoppa.com (510) 662-8558

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HILLS NEWSPAPERS

BERKELEY VOICE / THE JOURNAL / MONTECLAIR
PIEDMONT / ALAMEDA JOURNAL

Tarpoft

listened, looked out on the trees beyond both windows and I was free and happy...It was already so precious to me that its surface was almost my skin."

Here is another, this one taken from "Just and Durable Parents" by James Lee Ellenwood and in-

cluded in "Feels Like Home, Fond Remembrances in Words and Pictures," edited by Cheryl Moch. "Grandma, at eighty, is still a tramp at heart. A few summers ago she set out for a vacation in her old hometown many miles away. Her friends are nearly all dead and some that aren't are getting deaf and feeble, a strange fact that Grandma can't understand. In her native village she

What does home mean to you? Do you immediately think of the place where you are living now? In your mind, can you run through all of the places where you have lived?

went to the house in which she was born and grew up. With a perverse insistence but undeniable decorum, she got the present owner, a complete stranger, to rent her old room, and now each summer she goes there to live things over and over again.

"I feel so much at home there," she says, "it makes me remember so many things and people." Which, when you come right down to it, is the finest purpose of a home."

What does home mean to you? Do you immediately think of the place where you are living now? In your mind, can you run through all of the places where you have lived?

Do you "see" the street faces or do you "see" instead the insides of the buildings, go to the kitchens, the gardens, the places where you slept, or where you ate? Were these places where you stayed for a time, or were they, for you, home?

Anet Tarpoft and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents who specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached by e-mail at patanet@tarpoftandtalbert.com or by phone at 510-653-2050.

Home

FROM PAGE B1

Kelly accent the spaces with contemporary élan.

The home overlooks 271 acres of serene parkland canyons sprinkled with oak groves

All the primary rooms overlook the large courtyard, the parklands or both. Cooking is a joy in the striking gourmet kitchen complete with a central island, gorgeous granite counters and custom designed cabinets. The walk-in pantry and breakfast nook add practicality to beauty. Top-of-the-line appliances include a Wolf cooktop-oven and a 48-inch Subzero refrigerator.

Separated from the kitchen by a raised counter, the dramatic family room delights with high ceilings and a sculpted fireplace. From this rejuvenating space, one enjoys views of both the canyon and courtyard. The elegant living room and dining room are spacious and appointed with gorgeous fireplaces

The peaceful library comes with custom designed bookshelves and opens to courtyard. A spacious bedroom suite with a private entry is perfect as an au-pair, guest quarters or home office. Two garages accommodate a total of three cars

Unwind with a glass of wine and a fire in the gas lit fireplace of this sumptuous master bathroom, which

features an oversized tub and shower and distinctive tile work.

A second bedroom suite features a full bathroom and a walk-in closet and secondary stair access. The has three additional bedrooms and one bathroom.

Both Perkins and Lee were determined to preserve two old oak trees. Out of the commitment sprouted the courtyard concept, with the house wrapping around the trees. The courtyard is not only a wonderful place to relax and play, but also brings into the home gentle natural light and a peaceful connection to the outdoors.

This striking home is offered at \$1,760,000. The home will be open this Sunday from 2 to 4:30 p.m. To learn more, call David Ichikawa at 510 414-4370. To take a photo tour of the home, go to www.pacunion.com.



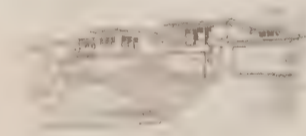
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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings, advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY

The Best of the 50's!



Berkeley
65 Quail Ave.

Open Sunday,
2-4:30 pm

Sunny & stylish, updated 3 bdrm, 2 bath house w/an open floor plan, clean lines & filtered Bay views. A gorgeous fieldstone entrance leads to a wonderful child-friendly garden, which can be accessed from the eat-in kitchen. Double French doors out to a large deck enhance the indoor/outdoor feel & privacy is augmented by interior access from a 2-car garage. Minutes from Glendale/La Loma Park, Tilden & U.C. Berkeley.

Offered at \$559,000

Norah Brower
510.524.9888 x26
norah@berkhills.com



Alameda's Best Location



1236 St. Charles
Offered at \$1,488,000

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT
For more information please call

Hanna Fry 521-5475
Hanna.Fry@worldnet.att.net



Kane & Associates
REALTORS

We proudly present this unique and light-filled Transitional Craftsman in the heart of Alameda's Gold Coast.

- 5-plus bedrooms
- 3 full baths
- Award-winning gourmet kitchen and family room
- Hardwood floors throughout
- Beveled-glass windows
- Built-ins with leaded glass doors
- 9,750 sq. ft. lot
- Charming, tranquil garden
- Plus shared entertainment area including pool, pool house with kitchen, changing rooms and 2 half-baths, built-in barbecue, gas cooktop, ovens, brick fireplace and covered conversation area.

NEW LISTING! OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2-4:30PM
6025 Bruns Court, Oakland

Charming English close to Montclair Village. 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, formal dining room, updated kitchen and family room. Beautiful!

Offered at \$645,000



Georgia Cornell
Senior Sales Consultant
(510) 338-1325



just ask our clients

pacunion.com

Alameda!

East End Bungalow!



\$479,000

Filled to the brim with original trims & details, this 2+ bedroom, 2 bath is simply charming. Coved ceilings, built-ins in LR & DR, gumwood galore. Plus Room suitable for use as Sleeping Room, Office or Family Area. Large sunny yard. EZ stroll to beach, shopping & transportation.

Mindy Hart - 510-523-0746
Kane & Associates Realtors

NEW LISTING



Marilyn Miller
(925) 253-4688
www.marilynmiller.com

The GRUBB Co.



5541 Maxwellton Road, Rockridge
A Charming Cape Cod now staged. Picture perfect front fence to the shuttered windows. Quiet corner lot, hand rooms, three bedrooms, two and one half baths, open & Private garden and patio.

Offered at \$699,000



SANDRA VOGL
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/216
svogl@grubbco.com
GRUBBCO.COM

Don't miss the Open House Guide on B15.

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Real Estate Advertising Deadlines
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BAY AREA PROPERTIES

Sophisticated Living...Breath-taking Views
39 Binnacle Hill, Claremont Hills
Open Sunday 2-5
Spacious townhouse in an exclusive location. View all room graced with cathedral ceilings. Watch the your spacious master suite. Retreat to the sea and fountain in your enchanted garden. Two bedrooms.

2615 Bayfront Court, Marina Bay • Open Sunday
Quiet gated community near Marina Seashore Trails. A Cathedral ceilings, skylights, fireplace, patio and pool.



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www.diana-connor.com
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for answers, but keep finding more questions."

Avoiding stress

Even though a professional Realtor may be able to help, many homeowners don't contact one because they either don't know who to call or they're afraid of running into a high-pressure sales situation. The Higgins have decided to offer this report to sellers, whether they hire the Higgins as their agents or not.

"Some may not even be ready to sell right away, they just want

information to help make the right decision," Carla said. "That's fine. Our goal is just to share the information and make the real estate process smoother for everyone by creating more educated consumers."

Easily accessible

"We have eliminated any need to fear a high-pressure sales pitch by making the report available through a special toll-free information hotline, said David.

Interested homeowners can call 800-525-3704, ext. 2224, and

listen to a brief recorded message, which gives them instructions on how to order the report. In most cases, the report can be sent out the same day.

Anyone with questions about the special report or real estate can contact Dave and Carla Higgins at the Prudential California Realty office at 342 Highland Ave. in Piedmont at 510-433-9739.

Please recycle.

ETHICS IN SELLING PROPERTY

You may feel a little nervous at the prospect of listing your home with a Realtor. What you need is a Realtor who is ethical, kind, and the hardest worker in town—someone who will give you the attention you need, combined with the patience and knowledge you deserve. Underneath your initial hesitation, you know what you are looking for. You have now found me.

Call me today to list your home.



Nancy Hinkley
Realtor

Office: (510) 428-0900
Voice Mail: (510) 433-2842



Prudential California Realty
342 Highland Ave., Piedmont

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

COMING SOON



5950 Ma. Andrew Drive, Montclair
COMING SOON. Absolutely exquisite country English surrounded by lovely trees and gardens. Located in the popular Piedmont side of Montclair, features include: an enchanting pool, detached pool house, flagstone patio, 4BR/4BA, inviting country kitchen and family room.
Offered at \$1,395,000



ELIZABETH DICKSON
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PACIFIC
UNION

Sale Pending



**Above
The Claremont**

2+ Bedrooms / 2 Baths
Wooded setting
On cul-de-sac

\$649,000

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The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS

NEW LISTING



6567 Ascot Drive, Montclair

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. New custom designed Mediterranean 5000 sq.ft. home nestled amongst the pine trees. Peek-a-boo Bay views. Very elegant kitchen, wired theatre room, walk-in spa style shower, beautifully designed grapevine-inspired stairway railing, library with cherry book cases, soaring ceilings, serene landscaping, beautiful garden space, 5BR/4.5BA.

Offered at \$1,495,000



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OFFICE: 339.0400/371
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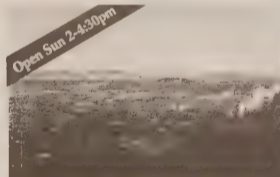
HERITAGE REAL ESTATE FINE HOMES & ESTATES



OAKLAND \$1,795,000
New Construction! Beautiful home with breathtaking view of SF Golden Gate & Bay Bridge. Approx. 5200 sqft, 4 large bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, gourmet kitchen, bonus room, wine cellar, hardwood floors and more! Bonnie Freitas



OAKLAND HILLS \$1,125,000
1960's Traditional built by O.W. Johnson on large level lot. Featuring 8 bedrooms incl. lrg. office/den & Au Pair. 4.5 baths, beautiful hardwood floors, huge marble fireplace & built-ins throughout! Kay Lanway



HILLER HIGHLANDS \$849,000
New Listing! Lovely custom townhouse with designer finishes. Large master suite with glorious view. Gourmet eat-in kitchen. Downslope, end unit. Spacious entry deck. 3 bedrooms/2.5 baths. Gayle Tantau



MONTCLAIR \$629,000
Exceptional charming contemp. Sunny living rm with walls of glass. Dining area. Remodeled kitchen with skylights, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Very large family rm. 2 fireplaces, huge deck. Front and back yard for play. 5 min. from Montclair shopping. Adriana Giacomelli



BERKELEY \$479,000
Elmwood fixer! Lovely craftsman style home with huge potential, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining room. Walk to UC and College Ave. shops & restaurants. Mary Hanna



LAKE MERRITT \$450,000
The Regillus Very desirable two bedroom, two bath condominium in prestigious Lake Merritt landmark building. Top floor overlooking gardens, park and out to Downtown Oakland. Formal floor plan with kitchen and bath upgrades. Tom Erwin



ROCKRIDGE \$429,000
Lower Rockridge Beauty. Plenty of space to entertain and wonderful architectural details in this California craftsman bungalow. Covered location near Rockridge BART. Fantastic landscaped yard with patio and playthings. Sarah Schisler



NORTH OAKLAND \$359,000
Four bedroom brown shingle two stories with 1700 sqft of living space, plus an inviting yard to relax in. Beautiful living room with inlaid hardwood floors. Wood burning stove in large kitchen. Tom Nemeth

BERKELEY \$1,195,000
English country reminiscent of a true English manor style home, this fabulous E.L. Snyder, built in 1935, features a "cook's" kitchen, extraordinary garden with pond plus 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. All in move-in condition. Miriam Wilson

MONTCLAIR \$799,000
Open Sun 2-4:30.
New Price! Spacious updated contemporary with valley views. Open design for easy indoor-outdoor living. Flexible floor plan. In-law. Double-lot. Pristine condition. Steven Biasatti

COMING SOON!
First time on the market! Wonderful 1939 Montclair traditional with 3 bedrooms and 2 baths. Updated kitchen, master suite, and living room with fireplace. Hardwood floors, new double paneled windows, and a level front yard make this a must see! Dana Cohen

OAKLAND \$389,000
Artist's Dream! Stylishly updated bungalow with deck plus fabulous, new, 16x32 Art/Dance/Yoga studio w/12ft vaulted ceiling in separate garden setting. Studio would make terrific home office, too. Must see! Vicky Friedman

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GUARANTEED!
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anyone else?

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Call today for your
Free Pre-approval!*

GRAND LAKE \$365,000
Grand Lake Fixer. Potential galore traditional 4++ bedroom, 2 bath gracious living & formal dining. Rich mahogany woods throughout. Investor/contractor's special single/multi dwelling. Angela Lawson

PARKWOODS \$275,000
Parkwoods one bedroom, one bath "Golden Gate" condo with cathedral ceilings, upgrade kitchen and bath, private deck and much more. Amenities include pool, spa, sauna, clubhouse, fitness center and greenbelts. Tom Erwin

Coming Soon!
CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$519,000
Crocker Highlands 2+ bedroom, 1 bath stucco in pristine condition. Easy care tri-level patio garden. All termite work has been cleared. Will be offered at \$519,000. Tom Erwin

510.339.8900

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A look around the real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

ATTENTION PUBLIC

9/11 Relief Fund Recognition
The American Society of Association Executive announced it would award the National Association of Realtors its highest honor,

the Summit Award. The award is in recognition for the Realtors Housing Relief Fund, NAR's campaign to pay the emergency housing costs of families who lost breadwinners in the September 11 terrorist attacks. Due to the generosity of Realtors across the country, \$8.5 million was raised. All the donations were distributed, to more



BOBBIE REID
Credit Worthy

than 1200 families. Information about NAR is available at www.realtor.org.

AAR Hosts Luncheon
The Local Government Relations

See REID, Page B7

Montclair Better Homes Realty

Gracious & Dramatic Piedmont Traditional

44 HIGHLAND AVENUE, PIEDMONT



NAHID NASSIRI

Your **Best Move**

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(510) 287-5770

For a virtual tour, visit me at www.NahidNassiri.com

From the front porch of warm red brick to the beautiful landscaped front yard, your guests are invited into a home where space and elegance are the key elements of design. The central entry's elegant, gently curved staircase sets the stage for oversized classic formal rooms. Exquisite details and pride of ownership enhance this 3bd/2.5ba beauty w/hardwoods, high ceilings, many french doors and plenty of sunlight. A large Family room with half bath and built-in bookshelves is just a step from the kitchen. A private and spacious back courtyard, level out from both the Living room and the Family room. This home is a delight!



Sunday Open House
June 30
2:00pm - 4:30pm

Montclair



OPEN SUNDAY, 2 TO 5PM



774 Calmar Ave., Oakland

First time on market in 49 years! Come and see this spacious 2 story 1926 Crocker Traditional with gleaming hardwood floors and beautiful crown mouldings. Enjoy the huge living room and sizeable dining room. All 4 bedrooms are upstairs. Additionally, there are 3 baths, office, breakfast room, & family room. Conveniently located to the Lakeshore shopping area and public transportation. Needs some updating & work. Nice feel!

Offered at \$749,500



RUBY NG, CRS

510/339-4779

rubbyng@earthlink.net



New Listing!



2814-2816 Central Avenue, Alameda

Open Sunday 2-4:30 P.M. Located on one of Alameda's most desirable streets, each unit of this charming traditional duplex features: one bedroom, one updated bath, a quaint country kitchen, formal living and dining rooms, a gracious fireplace with built-ins and hardwood floors. Additional bonus room in the upstairs unit - perfect for home office or nursery. Recently landscaped grounds, including a gorgeous new flagstone patio in the backyard. A true gem!

Offered at \$589,000



Terri Bates Walker

BROKER ASSOCIATE

(510) 428-0900 OFFICE

(510) 433-7164 DIRECT

Virtual tour: www.pruweb.com/terriwalker



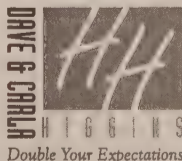
FREE SPECIAL REPORT FROM REALTORS® DAVE & CARLA HIGGINS:

Squeezing Every Last Dollar From Your Home Sale

Report Shows How To Sell For More
Realtors Dave and Carla Higgins have prepared a special report entitled "Squeezing Every Last Dollar From Your Home Sale." In this free report, you will find invaluable suggestions on how to increase the salability and price of your home and sell it quicker. Want to know which renovation can give you more than 100% return on investment? Would you like to know the dos and don'ts of remodeling and renovations? The answers are in this report.

To get your free copy of this report, call (800) 525-3704, ext. 2224, 24 hours for a recorded message. There's no obligation.

www.DaveandCarla.com



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272 Amherst Avenue



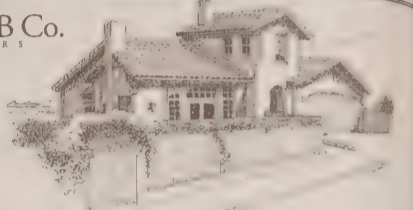
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For Additional information
Felicia Jenkins (510) 339-8400

The GRUBB Co.

NEW LISTING



835 Alvarado Road, Oakland

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Spacious Mediterranean with spectacular Great floorplan includes a fabulous kitchen, family room and more. Five bedrooms, three and one-half baths.

Offered at \$1,195,000



JOHN KARNAY

OFFICE: 339.0400/230

MAVIS DELACROIX

OFFICE: 339.0400/205

Visit GRUBBCO.COM for
Photo Tours
of this and other current listings.



6959 NORFOLK RD.,
OAKLAND \$835,000



Kelly Deal

510-484-4300

California Contemporary
in Claremont Hills. Casual
indoor-outdoor living with
French doors, balconies
and terrace with beautiful
bay views. 4+ bedrooms
and 3+ baths.

Pending Sale - Call Me
For Other Exciting Listings

Crocker Highlands

New Listings - Open Sunday - 2 to 5

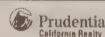


815 Creed Road

Adorable "storybook" house, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, "plus room" in basement, formal dining, leaded glass built-ins, breakfast room, original charm, large yard.

Offered at \$527,000

More Information
and Photos at:
www.doloressthom.com



1177 Holman Road

Charming 1927 Mediterranean 3 bed custom kitchen and bedroom special features huge private landscaping & view.

Offered at \$549,000



Dolores Thom

(510) 834-2010

(510) 763-1710

(510) 835-6080

New Listings!

1654 San Pablo Ave., Units B&C
Open Sunday or by appointment



2 newly converted and renovated condos great Northwest Berkeley location near Street and Café Fanny. Decks, laundry garden and parking included. 1 bedroom approximately 650 sq. ft. in a lush, wooded and secure setting.

Priced at \$269,000 and \$285,000



BERKELEYHOME

REAL ESTATE & INVESTMENT

1575 Hopkins St., Berkeley

510-527-5500

Listing Broker
Tim Cannon

AGE B3
of the Alameda Association of Realtors presents "City Updates." Learn about the Alameda's development. Committee sponsors luncheon. The luncheon on Thursday, July 18, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The guest speaker is Doug Yount, Alameda Development Services Director. Reservations are needed. For more information contact Remy Boyd of 510-523-7229.
Center Offers Free Lecture
Building Education Center invites anyone interested in building or remodeling to a free lecture on Monday, July 22, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. "What You Need to Know About Remodeling" by speaker Glen Kitzinger. For more information contact Remy Boyd at 510-523-7610 or visit the site at bldgeduct.org.

to your questions are available through the Noble Fields School of Real Estate. For more information call the Oakland office at 510-451-7977 or the main office, in San Francisco at 415-956-6169.
CERTIFICATION FOR RESIDENTIAL MANAGERS
Take your career to the next level. Become a California Certified Residential Manager. The 2002 CRM Series is held three times in 2002. Each series consists of nine core classes, held on five consecutive Saturdays. The Summer Series is held on July 13, 20, 27 and Aug. 3 and 10. The series includes topics such as Supervisory Skills, Fair Housing and Ethics. The courses may be taken individually. Pre-registration is mandatory and due two weeks before the first class in the series. For a complete list of classes and tuition information call the Rental Housing Association at 510-893-9873.
THEATRE, MUSIC & STARS
The hills are alive with the sound

of music. The Oakland hills that is. Join the Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter for the Third Annual "Theatre Under The Stars". This year's dinner-theater event is Thursday, July 18th. The production is The Sound of Music performed in Oakland's Woodminster Amphitheatre. Aides Martin Jerome of Fidelity National Title is a sponsor of the event. For reservations and information call Denise Sonnier at 510-521-7844.
1031 SEMINAR
Attend this 1031 Exchange seminar hosted by Monique Washington of Cherry Creek Mortgage and Lawyer Asset Management. The seminar is scheduled from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m., Friday, July 12, in Oakland. The featured speaker is Lloyd Kendall, Attorney at Law. If you have questions or wish to make a reservation call Washington at 510-452-8280.
See REID, Page B10

Oakland/Berkeley Hills
OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2-4:30PM



1508 Grandview Drive
Magnificent 3 year old home with unsurpassed top of the world San Francisco Bay views. Traditional floor plan, superior quality enhance this 5 bedroom, 4.5 bath, 3-car garage home
Offered at \$2,250,000



Teri Carlisle
Senior Sales Consultant. (510) 338-1305



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These Walls Could Talk: An About Buildings" is at the Hall of Science, in Berkeley on Sunday, Sept. 8. Visitors get the history on ancient and modern structures. Everybody's a part in this exhibit. "Walls" has stations focused on the history of the city. To find out more visit the site at www.lawrencehall.org or call 510-634-8980.
Partnership Help
The payment and closing cost is offered through the Wayward to first time homebuyers. There are still affordable in Hayward," commented Partnership Coordinator Sam Hopper. Buyers are required to attend in Hayward and attend a Partnership Class. Classes are on a monthly basis, as long as space is available. To find out more call 510-583-4244.
Home Careers
If you ever wondered about the real estate? Want to know what it takes? What type of job is involved? How do I get the exam? The answers

AFFORDABLE BUNGALOW
SUNDAY OPEN HOUSE 2-5 PM
996 Sixty Second Street, Oakland



Offered at \$329,000
This is truly an adorable 3 Bedroom 1 Bath Bungalow located on almost a quarter of an acre lot. Special features include refinished hardwood floors, a formal dining room, an updated kitchen and bathroom, laundry area, all appliances and a huge backyard. Detached garage.

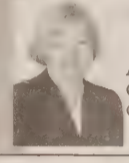
Barbara Hopper
Prudential California Realty
2 Tunnel Road, Berkeley 94705
(510) 845-0211 VM: (510) 986-9553

The GRUBB Co. REALTORS *Berkeley Properties Sold in June*

1004 Cragmont Avenue - Originally offered at \$685,000
Represented the Buyers

1553 La Vereda Road - Originally offered at \$599,000
Represented the Buyers

1240 Haskell Street - Originally offered at \$439,000
Represented the Sellers



ANNIE WALRAND
OFFICE: 652.2133/446
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COLDWELL BANKER PREVIEW
International

First Open 2-4:30
LAUREL, CA \$1,249,000
4 BR/4 BA, 4000 sq. ft. granite counters, marble floors, hardwood floors, large lot, open floor plan, some view, close to schools, shopping, restaurants, parks, etc.
Barbara Marienthal 510.339.4700

First Open 2-5
COLBURN PL. WEST ESTATES \$1,050,000
4 BR/4 BA, 4000 sq. ft. granite counters, marble floors, hardwood floors, large lot, open floor plan, some view, close to schools, shopping, restaurants, parks, etc.
Barbara Marienthal 510.339.4700

First Open 2-5
LAUREL, CA \$1,249,000
4 BR/4 BA, 4000 sq. ft. granite counters, marble floors, hardwood floors, large lot, open floor plan, some view, close to schools, shopping, restaurants, parks, etc.
Barbara Marienthal 510.339.4700

First Open 2-5
LAUREL, CA \$1,249,000
4 BR/4 BA, 4000 sq. ft. granite counters, marble floors, hardwood floors, large lot, open floor plan, some view, close to schools, shopping, restaurants, parks, etc.
Barbara Marienthal 510.339.4700

COLDWELL BANKER INTERNATIONAL
California moves.com
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

3011 HILLEGASS.....\$950,000
3BR hardwood floors, redwood throughout, formal dining & living, parlor, upgraded kitchen, deck w/view of Berkeley Hills 1BR/1BA in-law Open Sunday
Reva Tolbert.....510.339.4700

BERKELEY MAGIC IN THE AIR.....\$825,000
Special home in a great location. Magical waterfall, natural creek & deep lot w/mature gardens. Remodeled w/floor & great finishes. 3BR/2.5BA + family room.
Cheryl Cahn.....510.486.1495

3282 MADELINE, LAUREL.....\$549,000
Great space, creek side setting - level lot! 4BR/1.5BA. HWFS FP family room plus room. Many upgrades. Studio/storage outbuilding too! Open Sunday.
Rachel Baier.....510.339.4700

ALBANY PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP.....\$527,000
Move-in condition. 3BR/2BA + family room. Large rooms, hardwood floors, 2 car attached garage & a large lot. Level entry. Convenient to all!
Kim Cleveland.....510.486.1495

FIRST OPEN
5319 HARBORD, ROCKRIDGE.....\$799,000
Sunday 2-4:30 3+BR/3.5BA, hardwood floors, formal dining room, family room, level backyard. Great location. Vast lot! 4BR/3BA.
David Eckert.....510.339.4700

774 CALMAR AVE., CROCKER HIGHLANDS.....\$749,500
Sunday 2-5 First time on market in 40 years! Spacious 1926 Traditional w/huge living room & master suite. FDR, family room, office, HWF, 4+BR/3BA. Needs some work. Close to shops, Lake Merritt & bus. Gracious feel!
Rudy Ng.....510.339.4700

7505 SKYLINE, MONTCLAIR.....\$599,000
Sunday 2-5 3+BR/2BA Contemporary w/garden! HWF FP eat-in kitchen, loft-space for office. Deep lot. Close to Redwood Regional Park. Clean & sharp!
Lidia Nayo.....510.339.4700

1515 HOLMAN, CROCKER HIGHLANDS.....\$554,000
Sunday 2-4:30 Enjoy Old World charm & beautifully landscaped yard in this 3BR/2BA home with remodeled kitchen
Diana Hymor.....510.339.4700

5142 NEVIN AVE., RICHMOND.....\$390,000
Sunday 2-4 Full of light! Bay windows, breakfast room, formal DR, wood floors. 3BR/2BA. Lovely deck overlooks lush garden. Big garage. Near BART.
Lidia Nayo.....510.486.1495

4115 LAUREL, OAKLAND.....\$379,000
Sunday 1-5 Sweet Laurel starter. 2BR/1BA, view, level backyard wideck, fresh paint, big country kitchen.
Donna Conway.....510.339.4700

1821 SAN BENITO, RICHMOND ANNEX.....\$359,000
Sunday 2-4:30 5 Cerrito schools. Stylish remodeled 3BR/2BA. Trendy kitchen, master suite, landscaped yard, big garage. Bright, open floor plan.
Diana Kay.....510.486.1495

OPEN SUNDAY
808 ARLINGTON, BERKELEY.....\$925,000
Sunday 2-4:30 4BR/3.5BA w/views of SF, Golden Gate & Marin. Third level separate entry. Level yard.
Dell Orr.....510.339.4700

552 & 552A VALLE VISTA, ROSE GARDEN.....\$599,000
Sunday 1-5 Charming duplex! Main house 3BR/1BA, large living room w/FP, formal dining room, lovely level yard. 2nd unit 1BR/1BA, close to shops & restaurants.
Nadine Davari.....510.339.4700

5912 BALBOA DR., MONTCLAIR.....\$489,000
Sunday 2-5 3BR Tudor. Large eat-in kitchen, new kitchen, decks, HWF, fireplace. Many more upgrades. Large lot, beautiful setting, view.
Claudia Bowman.....510.339.4700

3839 ELSTON AVE., GLENVIEW.....\$469,000
Sunday 1-4:30 Large & sunny Glenview home w/formal dining room, box beamed ceiling, 3+BR/2BA, office. Lower level family room has separate entrance.
George Karsant.....510.339.4700

1968 HOOPER, UPPER DAKEMORE.....\$475,000
Sunday 2-5 3BR Tudor. Large eat-in kitchen, refinished hardwood floors, newly painted interior. A Bay view too!
Carolyn Devel.....510.339.4700

1116 HARRISON ST., BERKELEY.....\$399,000
Sunday 2-5 Charming Westbrae 1917 cottage. Updated kitchen & bath, hardwood floors, built-ins, sunroom. Walkways & stone patio.
Rebecca Brooks.....510.339.4700

4504-06 LAWTON.....\$365,000
Sunday 2-4:30 Temescal duplex! Side-by-side units. 2BR/1BA, yards, garage. Convenient location. Remodeled kitchens, freshly painted - ideal investment starter.
Don Coelho.....510.339.4700

926 CHESTER ST.....\$275,000-\$356,000
Sat & Sun 12-5 Four fabulous live/work lots significantly rebuilt from the ground up. Almost all new. Stainless steel appliances, granite, hardwood floors upstairs, skylights, pet-friendly. Secure parking. 2.5 blocks from BART, minutes from SF. Open Sat. AND Sun.
Victor Ratto.....510.339.4700

7089 ELVERTON, MONTCLAIR.....\$299,000
Spectacular frontage, great views, design review approved plans
Michael Eckert.....510.339.4700

4 LEONA.....\$165,000
Large parcel, rolling hills w/pleasant creek.
David Eckert.....510.339.4700

VALLEY VIEW ROAD.....\$399,000
Montclair upslope.
David Eckert.....510.339.4700

UPPER ROCKRIDGE.....\$875,000
3+BR/2.5BA home with character and charm. Freshly painted and newly refinished hardwood floors. Spacious rooms & SF view.
Michael Thompson.....510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR.....\$875,000
Architectural masterpiece! Contemporary w/gourmet kitchen, granite, HWF, master suite, 2 FP 4BR/2.5BA
Dell Orr.....510.339.4700

CROCKER HIGHLANDS.....\$819,000
3BR/3BA, hardwood floors, formal dining room, fireplace, gourmet kitchen, family room, deck w/partial view, detached studio/office
Victor Fierro/Fiona McIntyre.....510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR.....\$749,000
2+BR/1.5BA plus 1BR/1BA cottage. Romantic, lush, charming, pool, approx. 3/4 acre in Montclair hills with San Francisco view.
Donna Conway.....510.339.4700

EL SOLARANTE.....\$595,000
Totally remodeled after fire. 4BR/3BA, family room w/FP, wing room w/FP, formal dining, eat-in kitchen, level yard, new roof.
Phyllis Wherry.....510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR.....\$585,000
Sweeping Bay view from this sharp 3+BR/3BA beauty. Home office, family room & formal dining room.
Terry Kulka.....510.339.4700

BERKELEY.....\$575,000
Recent remodel looks great! Split level w/built-ins, large rooms & level garden.
3BR/1BA. Play structure is included.
Liane Varducci.....510.486.1495

LAKE MERRITT LUXURY.....\$568,000
Lakeview condo in prestigious building. Hardwood floors, fireplace formal dining room, new recessed lighting. Old World charm
Lidia Nayo.....510.339.4700

TEMESCAL.....\$559,000
Four large 1BR/1BA units - some units redone. Formal dining rooms, newer roof, huge lot, garages.
Victor Ratto.....510.339.4700

ALBANY.....\$549,000
Tri-level home with views of Mt. Tam, San Pablo Bay & Napa Valley. 11 rooms with 3BR/2.5BA. Marble tile floors in kitchen & a huge playroom.
Josh Whitmer.....510.486.1495

BERKELEY.....\$429,000
Serene & exciting! Open kitchen/living room floorplan. 2BR/1BA, fireplace, appliances included. 1 car garage. Studio/office. Owners home as a new Rita Zwerding.....510.486.1495

BERKELEY.....\$425,000
Level-in duplex, side-by-side. 2BR/1BA each. Owner unit delivered vacant. Remodeled bath. Next to Rose/Cedar Park, close to BART.
Barbara Marienthal.....510.486.1495

LINCOLN HEIGHTS.....\$399,000
Charming, special starter! 2BR/2BA, hardwood floors, appliances, new carpet & paint (inside & out). Great location, large lot, views.
Rachel Baier.....510.339.4700

TEMESCAL.....\$399,000
Three 1BR/1BA units. 2 redone. Close to BART.
Victor Ratto.....510.339.4700

UPDATED VICTORIAN.....\$395,000
3BR/1BA, refinished floors, fresh paint 1BR/1BA without permit in basement
Jon Dunn.....510.339.4700

GLENVIEW.....\$389,000
Enchanting English 2BR 1BA. Wood floors, inset ceilings, crown moldings. FDR, updated kitchen, breakfast room, newer app. gardens.
Elena Stone.....510.339.4700

WICKY FAULK.....\$331,000
Spacious ground-level end-unit condo. 3BR/2BA 1 car garage - carpet. Built in 1985. Fresh paint, newer flooring, laundry room, newer app. gardens.
Elena Stone.....510.339.4700

CUTE & COZY.....\$269,500
2BR/1BA. Fresh paint w/out. On cul-de-sac. Large living room, breakfast room. Great neighborhood, easy access to freeways 580/13/238.
Reva Tolbert.....510.339.4700

BUYER NEEDS
In the Berkeley or Oakland Hills, 4BR/2BA home up to \$1,200,000.
Please call Josh Whitmer.....510.981.3027

Piedmont or Montclair area. Minimum 3BR/1BA, some level yard, up to \$1,000,000.
Please call Maura Allen.....510.981.3034

Light-filled contemporary in Berkeley. 3BR/2BA plus garden up to \$1,000,000.
Please call Nadine Oel.....510.981.3033

Preferably in Berkeley Hills & Thousand Oaks area. 4BR/2BA home up to \$700,000.
Please call Kim & Barbara Marienthal.....510.981.3036

Elmwood/LeConte School, 3+BR/2BA, sunny yard, five o.k. Up to \$700,000.
Please call Sarah Shanikman.....510.981.3011

Rockridge or No. Berkeley. 2BR or more, Craftsman or classic bungalow up to \$500,000.
Please call Bobbie Giarattana.....510.981.3031

FOR PHOTO TOURS, OPEN HOMES & MORE COLDWELL BANKER LISTINGS VISIT US AT
www.californiamoves.com

6137 LaSalle Avenue Oakland 510.339.4700

1495 Shattuck Avenue Berkeley 510.486.1495

1-888-281-9197

House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section for

JUST LISTED OPEN SUNDAY, 2-4:30



1515 Holman, Road
Don't be fooled by the low profile facade. This delightful 3 bedroom, 2 bath Mediterranean has Old World charm, a remodeled kitchen and a beautifully landscaped park like yard. Features include: Hardwood floors, formal dining room, handsome fireplace, good indoor-outdoor living and entertaining, basement storage and workshop.



Dian Hymer, CRS
Associate Broker
#1 Agent Oakland/Piedmont Office 2001
510-339-4777
photo tour @ dianhymer.com

Offered at \$554,000



JUST LISTED - OPEN SUNDAY, 2-4:30



1093 Clarendon Circle
OAKLAND, CA
This stunning 4 bed, 3 bath home offers the ultimate in luxury living. Beautifully landscaped garden, gourmet kitchen with granite counter tops, large breakfast room with sliding glass doors leading to a deck with partial bar, separate dining room, bar w/ wine rack, pool with detached guest house, full bath. Great storage under house. This home is in Crocker Highlands shops and dining.
Offered at \$819,000



For more info contact
VICTOR FIERRO
President's Circle
510-339-4750 VM
510-928-6497 Cell
Vfierro1@aol.com
View at www.camoves.com



Montclair Better Homes Realty

6000 Grizzly Peak Boulevard



LAUREL STRAND
Committed to you
(510) 339-8400 Office
(510) 464-1204 Direct Line



Fabulous Bay Views Throughout
-Seeing is Believing!!
3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths



The GRUBB Co.

Open Sunday



96 Gleneden Avenue, Oakland

Location, Location! Close to Piedmont Avenue shops and restaurants, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large level landscaped garden, hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, formal dining and fireplace

Offered at \$599,000



KURT BUCHHOLZ
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/221
GRUBBCO.COM

Visit GRUBBCO.COM
Photo Tour
of this and other current listings

TECHNOLOGY



Scott Thompson
Realtor®, eCertified®

Providing the best customer experience! Buying and selling real estate is not only about what you know, it's about whether you can break through the clutter and information overload. Go to my web site and sign up for **Automated Email Listing Service** and receive customized property listings by Email for free.

According to the results of the 2002 "Internet Versus Traditional Buyers Study" released by the **CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®**:

- Homebuyers who use the Internet as an integral part of their homebuying process tend to be better educated, wealthier and more ethnically diverse than traditional Buyers.
- Internet Buyers spent significantly less time looking at homes for sale prior to making a purchase and looked at far fewer homes prior to making a purchase than did traditional Buyers.
- Internet Buyers spent more time researching and investigating their homebuying options before contacting a REALTOR®.
- After contacting a REALTOR®, Buyers spent less than a third of the time traditional Buyers did looking for a home, saving time for both Buyers and REALTORS®.

Haskell St.	\$470,000	Sold
Ramona St.	\$559,000	Sale Pending
Oakmont Ct.	\$699,980	Sale Pending
135th Ave Duplex	\$459,000	Sale Pending
10401 N.Foothill	\$289,000	Open 6/29 & 6/30, 1-4pm

Prudential California Realty
342 Highland Ave., Piedmont
(510) 410-2003 Direct

www.ScottThompson.biz
Scott@ScottThompson.biz
OAR, CAR, NAR, eCertified®



OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 12-5PM 8273 Skyline Circle, Oakland Hills

Built in 1997 and upgraded with plantation shutters, stone floors and a spectacular garden on a huge lot; this impeccable home offers views of the bay. The floor plan is practical and the spacious kitchen has doors leading out to the deck, waterfall, lawn area and spa tub, a beautiful retreat.

3 bedrooms/2.5 baths
Family room adjacent to kitchen with fireplace • Master suite
Approx. 2,350 sq. ft./12,845 sq. ft. lot
Spectacular garden • 2-car garage

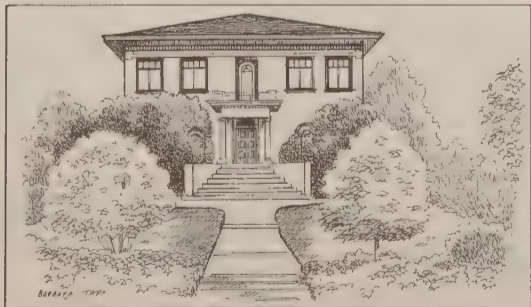


Offered at \$759,000



Donna Costella
Senior Sales Consultant
(510) 338-1355

Claremont Elegance!



#29 Eucalyptus Road

A perfectly beautiful Claremont Mediterranean built in 1918 with a breathtaking view of the bay! Wonderful family spaces and a most convenient location.

4+ bedrooms, 2+ baths, solarium
\$1,350,000

Open Sunday, June 30 • 2-5 pm

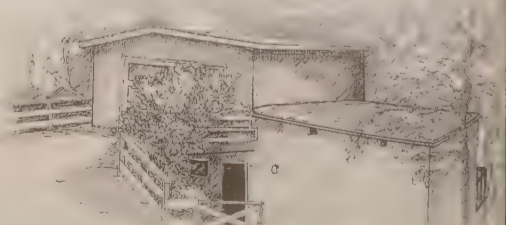


Julie Lehman, Listing Agent
510-845-0211

♦ MONTCLAIR RETREAT

6459 Westover Drive

♦ **First Open This Sunday, June 30th 2 to 5 PM**



Offered at \$449,000

You will enjoy the serene setting of this 2 bedroom, 2 bath contemporary home located on a quiet street, minutes to Montclair village, restaurants and schools, and within easy access to transportation and enjoy nature on the private front and back decks!

See webtour at www.pruweb.com/martineerickson

For further information, call: **Martine F. Erickson**
Direct: 510-384-8724
Office: 510-428-0900
Voicemail: 510-287-9341

Open Sunday



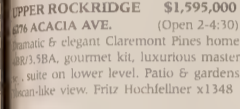
CLAREMONT HILLS \$2,250,000
1008 GRANDVIEW DR. (Open 2-4:30)
 Stunning 3 yr. old home. Top of the world
 overlooking Berkeley Hills Point w/5 bridge
 view. Fabulous floor plan, superb quality.
 5BR/4.5BA. Teri Carlisle x1305



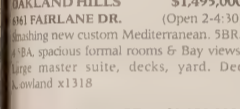
PIEDMONT \$2,150,000
111 BONITA AVE (Open 2-4:30)
 Classic Craftsman on 1/3 acre level lot.
 5BR/5+BA w/lush landscaping &
 swimming pool. Private setting
 Martha Holtslag x1312



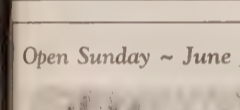
RIIDGECREST \$1,780,000
1486 CAMPUS DR. (Open 2-4:30)
 Stunning 6+BR/4.5BA contemporary w/
 distinctive details, vibrant colors &
 landscaped spaces. Overlooks acres of se-
 rine parkland. David Ichikawa x1331



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,595,000
1076 ACACIA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
 Dramatic & elegant Claremont Pines home.
 5BR/3.5BA, gourmet kit, luxurious master
 suite on lower level. Patio & gardens,
 ocean-like view. Fritz Hochellner x1348



CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,495,000
6 GYPSY LN. (Open 2-4:30)
 Price Reduced! Fabulous Bay view
 contemporary Modern. 3+BR/3BA, beau-
 tiful master w/fireplace, hot tub. Updated
 great gardens on .99+/- acre site. Leslie
 Hunt x1341



OAKLAND HILLS \$1,495,000
161 FAIRLANE DR. (Open 2-4:30)
 Stunning new custom Mediterranean. 5BR/
 3.5BA, spacious formal rooms & Bay views.
 Large master suite, decks, yard. Dee
 Knowland x1318

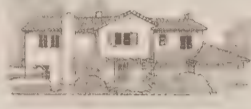


UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$1,150,000
142 CONTRA COSTA RD. (Open 2-4:30)
 New Listing! Sophisticated 4BR/3.5BA
 home w/panoramic GG views. Kitchen/
 family room, master suite, level yard. Very
 lush! Dee Knowland x1318

PACIFIC UNION

510.339.6460
 www.pacunion.com

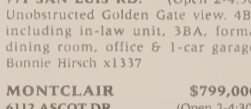
Open Sunday



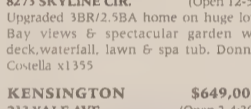
UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$949,000
6069 BUENA VISTA AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
 Charming 3+BR/2+BA Mediterranean
 w/FDR, gourmet kitchen, home office, Bay
 views & landscaped garden. Helen Danhak
 x1356 & Charlotte Boyle x1370



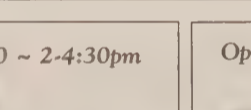
MONTCLAIR \$899,000
6246 ASPINWALL RD. (Open 2-4:30)
 Stylish well designed 3BR/2.5BA home at
 the end of a private drive. Light & airy, built
 in 1997. Big lot, views. Lee Jacobson x1309



BERKELEY \$849,000
771 SAN LUIS RD. (Open 2-4:30)
 Unobstructed Golden Gate view. 4BR
 including in-law unit. 3BA, formal
 dining room, office & 1-car garage.
 Bonnie Hirsch x1337



MONTCLAIR \$799,000
6112 ASCOT DR. (Open 2-4:30)
 3BR/3.5BA, library & formal dining
 room. Charming English with lush
 gardens. 2-car garage. Large lot. Wendy
 Gardner x1303

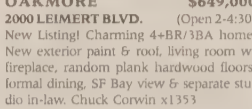


OAKLAND HILLS \$759,000
8273 SKYLINE CIR. (Open 12-5)
 Upgraded 3BR/2.5BA home on huge lot.
 Bay views & spectacular garden w/
 deck, waterfall, lawn & spa tub. Donna
 Costella x1355



KENSINGTON \$649,000
213 VALE AVE. (Open 2-4:30)
 Elegant & stylish 3BR/2.5BA home
 w/remodeled kitchen, panoramic SF
 views & 2-car garage. Rich Gould x1347

Open Sunday



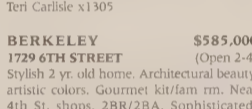
OAKMORE \$649,000
2000 LEIMERT BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)
 New Listing! Charming 4+BR/3BA home
 New exterior paint & roof, living room w/
 fireplace, random plank hardwood floors,
 formal dining, SF Bay view & separate stu-
 dio in-law. Chuck Corwin x1353



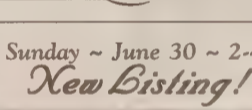
MONTCLAIR \$645,000
6025 BRUNS COURT (Open 2-4:30)
 New Listing! Charming English close to
 Montclair Village. 3+BR/2BA, formal din-
 ing room, updated kitchen & family room.
 Beautiful Joanna Hirsch x1366



MONTCLAIR \$629,000
21 CHATSWORTH CT. (Open 2-4:30)
 Special Mediterranean with charming
 details, entry courtyard, 2+BR/2BA &
 great deck. Bay view. Donna Costella
 x1355



CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$619,000
17 ASHMOUNT WAY (Open 2-4:30)
 Stylish contemporary w/fabulous views
 3BR/2BA, family room, deck & yard. Private.
 Teri Carlisle x1305



BERKELEY \$585,000
1729 6TH STREET (Open 2-4)
 Stylish 2 yr. old home. Architectural beauty,
 artistic colors. Gourmet kit/fam rm. Near
 4th St. shops. 2BR/2BA. Sophisticated!
 Anne Van Dyke x1399

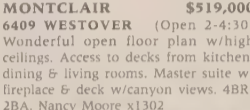


SAN LEANDRO \$339,000
340 FARRELLY DR. (Open 1-4)
 New Listing! Charming 2+BR home in
 Pond neighborhood w/remodeled bath,
 formal dining room, spacious living room
 w/fireplace & office/3rd BR open to land-
 scaped garden. Candy Benny x1328

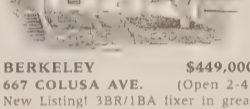
Open Sunday



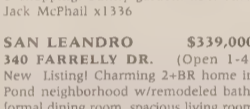
ROCKRIDGE \$575,000
5301 BROADWAY TER. #9 (Open 2-4:30)
 First time on the market in over 30 years.
 2BR/1.5BA condo w/elegant & formal large
 rms. In sought after historic brick Tudor
 building. Ashley O'Neill x1368



MONTCLAIR \$519,000
6409 WESTOVER (Open 2-4:30)
 Wonderful open floor plan w/high
 ceilings. Access to decks from kitchen,
 dining & living rooms. Master suite w/
 fireplace & deck w/canyon views. 4BR/
 2BA. Nancy Moore x1302



BERKELEY \$449,000
667 COLUSA AVE. (Open 2-4)
 New Listing! 3BR/1BA fixer in great
 location near Solano Ave. Bring lots of TLC
 & paint. Great bones. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



BERKELEY \$445,000
1315 BERKELEY WAY (Open 2-4:30)
 Beautiful Craftsman 2 blocks to BART
 & shopping. Sunny garden. 2BR/1BA.
 Jack McPhail x1336

By Appointment

PIEDMONT \$3,850,000
 Price Reduced! Incredible estate prop-
 erty. 5-BR residence and 1-BR guest
 house on almost one acre. Quiet,
 private setting. Georgia Cornell x1325



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$3,100,000
 Magnificent property in beautiful
 Claremont Pines. Built in 1935 w/5BR/
 6.5BA, gracious formal rooms, library, full
 au-pair suite & fabulous pool & spa
 Dee Knowland x1318

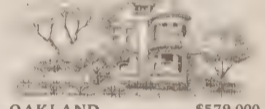
MONTCLAIR \$1,049,000
 Striking level-in contemporary on almost
 1/3 acre level lot. Wonderful floor plan w/
 5BR/4+BA, gorgeous master suite, level
 yard, 3-car garage & city views. Fritz
 Hochellner x1348

OAKLAND HILLS \$895,000
 Breathtaking SF view! 4+BR/3.5BA,
 4300+ square feet, 2 family rooms, plus
 room great for office or den, wood floors
 Robyn Mohr x1310

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$820,000
 Elegant custom contemporary w/won-
 derful space & flow. Entertainer's kitchen.
 Bay views, 3BR/2.5BA, huge family room.
 See more @ www.pacunion.com. Gini
 Erck x1339

LAKE MERRITT \$619,000
 Price Reduced! Luxury condominium
 w/bay & lake views. 2BR/2BA. Like
 living on a chic cloud w/all the ameni-
 ties. Sandi Klemmer x1314 & Dick
 Cohen x1308

OAKLAND HILLS \$579,000
 Views from almost every room! Sunny
 level-in home w/4BR/3BA, huge rum-
 pus room, 2 fireplaces, 2-car garage
 Robyn Mohr x1310



OAKLAND \$579,000
 A majestic Queen Anne Victorian w/grand
 interior on beautifully landscaped lot. 4BR/
 1.5BA, grand foyer, parlor, gorgeous detail-
 ing. Minutes from Jack London Square. Joan
 E. Hause x1358

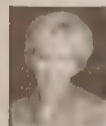
OAKLAND HILLS \$489,000
 Impressive SF/GG view! Fantastic 3BR/
 2.5BA, townhouse in Sequoyah Heights. Re-
 modeled kit & baths, 2-car attached garage
 & community pool. Robyn Mohr x1310

Open Sunday ~ June 30 ~ 2-4:30pm



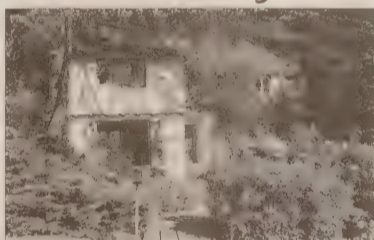
6409 Westover Drive, Oakland

This wonderful open floor plan has high ceilings and
 access to decks with peaceful canyon views.
 4 bedrooms, 2 baths in Montclair.



Offered at \$519,000
Nancy Moore
 Senior Sales Associate
 510.338-1302

Open Sunday ~ June 30 ~ 2-4:30pm
New Listing!



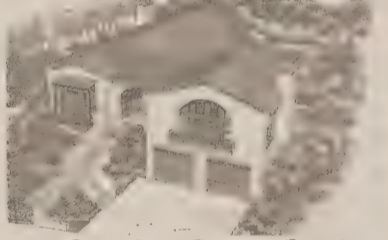
6112 Ascot Drive, Oakland

3 bedroom, 3.5 baths plus library plus formal dining room.
 Charming English with lush gardens. 2-car garage.
 Remodeled kitchen. Large lot professionally landscaped.



Offered at \$799,000
Wendy Gardner
 Broker Associate
 510.338-1303

Open Sunday ~ June 30 ~ 2-4:30pm



6361 Fairlane Drive, Oakland

Absolutely smashing new custom Mediterranean.
 Approximately 4200 sq. ft. 5BR/5.5BA, lovely spacious
 formal rooms, large master w/sitting room, His & Hers walk-in
 closets, back yard, decks & Bay views.



Offered at \$1,495,000
Dee Knowland
 Senior Sales Associate
 510.338-1318

Open Sunday ~ June 30 ~ 2-4:30pm
New Listing!



213 Yale Avenue, Kensington

Built in 1939, this elegant view home has been updated
 with a contemporary flair. 2BR, 2BA on main level with
 1BR/half BA & plus space (used as office) on lower level.
 Glorious SF/GG views. Eat-in remodeled kitchen, formal
 dining room, hardwood floors, fireplace.



Offered at \$649,000
Rich Gould
 Senior Sales Associate
 510.338-1347

Open Sunday ~ June 30 ~ 2-4:30pm
New Listing!



6182 Contra Costa Road, Oakland

Built in 1998 on a popular street in prestigious Upper
 Rockridge, this beautiful home combines magnificent
 panoramic views with great style & sophisticated floor.
 Formal living & dining rooms, & a lovely family room w/
 wet bar leading to a level yard. 4BR/3.5BA.



Offered at \$1,150,000
Dee Knowland
 Senior Sales Associate
 510.338-1318

Open Sunday ~ June 30 ~ 2-4:30pm



13486 Campus Drive, Oakland

This stunning, new 6,020+/- sq. ft. home features vibrant
 colors and sculpted spaces that uplift the soul. Distinctive
 details accent with contemporary élan. Overlooks acres of
 serene parkland.



Offered at \$1,780,000
David Ichikawa
 Senior Sales Associate
 510.338-1331

Reid

FROM PAGE B7

WANTED COMMERCIAL BROKERS

Bob Valva of Valva Realty invites Oakland real estate brokers to attend the Oakland Realtors Commercial & Industrial Brokers Committee. According to Valva the group was appointed years ago, by the Oakland mayor to facilitate city sales and leasing. The next meeting is Thursday, July 11, at the OAR Auditorium on Webster. If you would like to attend call Valva at 510-451-7317.

OAR FOR ORAL LEE

The Oakland Association of Realtors' fundraising task force raises money for the Oral Lee Brown Foundation. The foundation helps

Realtor Oral Lee Brown keep her promise to Oakland school children, to put them through college. The task force is having a raffle in June. Make a donation \$25 to the OLB Foundation and earn an entry into a drawing for a Palm Pilot. Realtor and task force Chairperson, Lois Harris of Prudential California Realty encourages everyone to participate in this worthy endeavor. Contact Harris at 510-834-2010.

SENIOR DESIGNATION

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WHO'S ON FIRST?

■ It's a boy! Alameda Association of Realtors President-elect Vincent San Nicolas and his wife, Michelle, are the proud parents of Michael Anthony. San Nicolas is with Alameda Realty and can be reached at 510-522-8585.

■ Which way did they go? They headed north. North American Title Company on Island Drive in Alameda has a new team. Sandi Carey, Sharon Francis, Kelly Leonard, Christine Kelley and Freddie Kapp are looking forward to working with you. They're all available at 510-749-8820.

I need your information for this column. Fund-raisers, meetings, announcements, promotions. Send an email to my new e-mail bobreid@mindspring.com. Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191. Call me at 510-441-7190.

Oakmore Charming
OPEN SUNDAY, JUNE 30, 2-4:30PM

2000 Leimert Boulevard, Oakland

This charming home lives in the heart of the Oakmore District of Oakland. It has new exterior paint and roof. Living room with fireplace, random plank hardwood floors, formal dining, kitchen with a view, plus a separate in-law area.

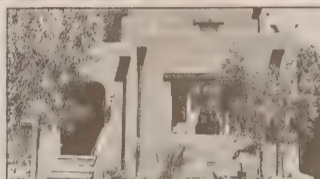
4+BR/2BA, huge master suite, 2-car attached garage.

Offered at \$649,000



Chuck Corwin

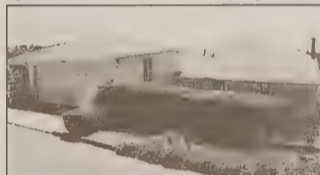
Senior Sales Consultant. (510) 338-1353

marvin gardens
real estate

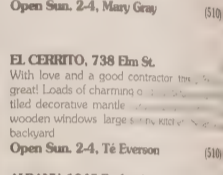
ALBANY, 523 Curtis St. \$785,000
Architecturally stunning, custom-built Santa Fe style. 4 BR, 3 BA, tile & oak floors. Kitchen/family room combination of great beauty w/cherrywood cabinets, marble countertops & professional appliances
Open Sun. 2-4, Té Everson (510) 559-2926



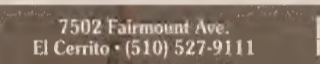
EL CERRITO, 1815 Key Route
Delightful 2 BR home in great! Loads of charming w/ tiled decorative mantle, wooden windows, large sunny backyard
Open Sun. 2-4, Mary Gray (510) 527-4700



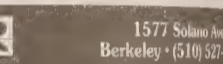
KENSINGTON, 32 Kensington. \$699,000
View, View, View from 2 levels. Main level: grand entry, 3 BR, 3 BA, formal dining, living room w/fireplace, kitchen w/eating area & deck. Lower level: living room w/fireplace, kitchen, 2 BR, 1 BA. Public records classify as duplex
Open Sun. 2-4, Merrilyn Rhodes (510) 559-2928



EL CERRITO, 738 Elm St.
With love and a good contractor the house was completely renovated. Tiled decorative mantle, wooden windows, large sunny backyard
Open Sun. 2-4, Té Everson (510) 559-2926



ALBANY, 1045 Evelyn Ave.
Move right into this light & bright home! Loads of charming w/ tiled decorative mantle, wooden windows, large sunny backyard
Open Sun. 2-4:30, Kathleen Berg (510) 527-4700



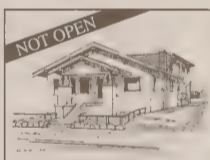
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HOMES OPEN SUNDAY

JUNE 30TH, 2002



Berkeley \$659,000
Triplex - Vacant, charming 2bd, 1ba units. Owner's unit with fireplace, hardwood floors & detached office. Near BART, shops, restaurants.
2227 McGee Avenue



Berkeley \$659,000
4/3 - Fifties classic, lovingly maintained by original owner. Living room with view of the Bay, fireplace, surrounded by trees & quiet.
1202 Keith Avenue Open 2-4



Oakland \$550,000
2+1 - Beautiful bungalow, cut-de-sac location 2 blocks from Piedmont Ave. Beautiful hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen, 4226 Glen Avenue



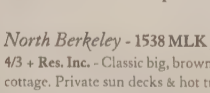
Berkeley \$769,000
4/2 - Very sophisticated contemporary. Stunning views from 2 levels, master suite with deck, charming landscaped garden, near Tilden.
1117 Miller Avenue Open 2-4



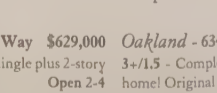
Rockridge \$1,200,000
3/2 - Craftsman enthusiast's dream in Oakland. Landscaped gardens with pool & hot tub. Photos at www.charliecookproperties.com
6040 Chabot Road Open 2-4:30



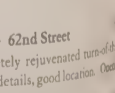
El Cerrito \$449,000
3/2 - Contemporary w/ master bedroom perched on hillside, wood floors throughout, patio, fireplace
1524 Everett Street



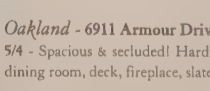
North Berkeley - 1538 MLK Jr. Way \$629,000
4/3 + Res. Inc. - Classic big, brown shingle plus 2-story cottage. Private sun decks & hot tub.
Open 2-4



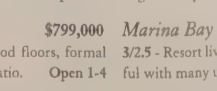
El Cerrito - 520 Norvell Street \$399,000
2/1 - Charming home ideally located only minutes to Plaza BART, Solano Avenue and I-80.
Open 2-4



Richmond - 3301 Tulare Avenue
2/1 - Remodeled, new hardwoods, great shape in great shape. Close to transportation.



Oakland - 6911 Armour Drive \$799,000
5/4 - Spacious & secluded! Hardwood floors, formal dining room, deck, fireplace, slate patio.
Open 1-4



Marina Bay - 85 Crystal Cove Ct. \$325,000
3/2.5 - Resort living by the Bay. Light, bright w/ full many upgrades. Very nice.

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★ ★ NEW ROCKRIDGE LISTING ★ ★

★ ★ Open House - Sunday, June 30, 2002 1-5 ★ ★



Rockridge
5529 Kales Avenue
Offered \$639,000

Craftsman Brown Shingle in Rockridge

Visit this wonderful Rockridge Home which features 4+ spacious bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, a roomy eat-in kitchen, a formal dining room with a built-in China cabinet and boxed beam ceiling, and a formal living room with a traditional craftsman style, wood-burning fireplace. The master bedroom is sunny and bright with a cozy nook where a good book and your favorite chair and ottoman are waiting. The rear deck located off the kitchen is a perfect spot to unwind after a busy day and admire the vistas. This home has been recently remodeled and boasts many new and upgraded systems including a new furnace and roof. It is located on a friendly tree-lined Street close to everything that makes Rockridge so Special, including BART, College Avenue Shops and Restaurants, Casual Carpooling to SF, wonderful local parks, and of course Great Coffee.

Ron Kriss, Realtor®/Partner
547-5970 Ext 55 ronkriss@jps.net



Online Tour @ www.5529Kales.com

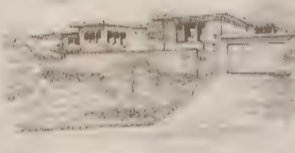
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65 Quail Ave., Berkeley

Just Listed! Open Sun., 2-4:30

Sunny, stylish, updated 3 bdrm, 2 bath house w/ an open floor plan, clean lines & filtered Bay views. A gorgeous fieldstone entrance leads to a wonderful child-friendly garden, which can be accessed from the eat-in kitchen. Double French doors out to a large deck enhance the indoor/outdoor feel & privacy is augmented by interior access from a 2-car garage. Minutes from Glendale/La Loma Park, Tilden & U.C. Berkeley.
\$559,000. Norah Brower x26



5336 Rosalind, El Cerrito

Just Listed! Open Sun., 2-4

Come see this charming and light-filled home built in 1929 and on the market for the first time in over 50 years. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, gorgeous hwd floors, fireplace, formal dining room, a big breakfast room. Large backyard (lot is 7,000+ sq. ft.), detached garage and rumpus room building. Great access to BART & Hwy 80.
\$459,000 as is. Peter Damm x13



122 Vicente Rd., Berkeley

By Appointment

Stunning newer Mediterranean, 4 bedroom/4 bath, in Berkeley's most desirable neighborhood. Gorgeous views. Easy indoor/outdoor access to fabulous backyard. Stylish au-pair with separate entrance. Beautifully appointed & sun-filled throughout.
\$1,350,000. Denise Milburn x35



760 Wildcat Canyon Rd., Berkeley

(Private road south of Sunset Lane)

Gorgeous country setting in the woods, fantastic view of Tilden hills and San Pablo Bay. Architect-designed home recently updated. Large living spaces. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, family room, dark room, large workshop or studio. Excellent indoor/outdoor with lovely garden, decks and romantic hot tub.
\$1,295,000. Maya Trilling x18



108 Forest Lane, Berkeley

Open Sun., 2-4

Berkeley Hills, fabulous views, and a reduced price make this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home the Bay Area's best value!
\$489,500. Bill and Tracy x33
www.berkeleyhillsrealty.com



Sunset Trail, Berkeley

Brown-shingled major fixer in the Claremont. Super location, great views ... but you can't get there from here. No street access! Lots of steps. \$80,000 pest report. Serious contractors only.
\$320,000. Arlene Baxter x19

"Thank you for the countless ways you helped us find exactly the right house. We're very grateful for your persistence and patience."

—M. G. & M. M., Oakland

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PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



213 MOUNTAIN AVENUE \$2,100,000
A very good looking home embracing gorgeous landscaped grounds & city views, grand rooms & a fabulous master suite. Jean Simmons



52 LAKEVIEW AVENUE \$1,450,000
Enjoy the unique charm & style of this well located home, amongst redwoods & horticulturally important gardens. 3+BR upstairs and nice decking. Lori Lombardo

455 MOUNTAIN AVENUE \$1,220,000
The home you have been waiting for. Warm traditional w/ lots of space. 5BR/3.5BA, den, rumpus room & country kitchen. Sandra Vogl



107 ESTATES DRIVE \$1,095,000
A handsome home with a fabulous kitchen, large formal rooms, comfortable den. 4BR/3+BA, family room, 2 multi-purpose rooms. Susanne Paul

110 MAGNOLIA AVENUE \$699,000
Classic Piedmont bungalow with beautifully remodeled eat-in kitchen. Pretty living room w/ sunny bay window; 3BR/1+BA & bonus space. Mindy Scott



1121 RANLEIGH WAY \$695,000
Elegant & sophisticated w/ updated kitchen & bath, hardwood floors, French doors open to a lovely garden & patio. 2BR/1BA. A real jewel. Elizabeth Dickson



110 OLIVE AVENUE \$595,000
A great price in Piedmont! Sunny home & large garden. Huge basement with workshop & office space. 2-car garage with work area & storage. Erika Celestre

PIEDMONT - BY APPOINTMENT



FRENCH NORMANDY \$2,350,000
A distinct, grand and beautiful home w/ fabulous kitchen, den, French doors to patio, secret garden. Play room & potential for solarium garden room. Jeanette Roach



MEDITERRANEAN CALL FOR PRICE
Mediterranean showcase w/ gardens, European kitchen, sumptuous master retreat. The perfect place for a distinctive life-style of comfort & harmony. Sandra Vogl



VIEW VIEW VIEW \$1,100,000
Enjoy the glamour and true function of this fabulous well located home. Light & bright throughout. Close to transportation & schools. Anian Pettit Tunney

BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30



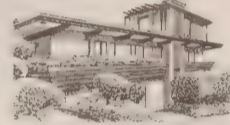
12 ALVARADO ROAD \$1,650,000
Impressive Claremont home. Rare 4+ BR on upper level. Restored & remodeled. Inviting light filled rooms, enchanting grounds! Ruth Frassetto

245 ALVARADO ROAD \$1,595,000
A gracious Monterey Colonial in the heart of Claremont. Approx. 1/3 of an acre. Exquisite private gardens. Bay views & au pair/home office. Erika Celestre



186 HILLCREST ROAD \$989,000
Ratcliff English on double lot in coveted neighborhood. Updated w/ new bathrooms, great closets & eat-in kitchen. 4+BR/3BA. 3 car garage. Katherine Cooper

543 SPRUCE STREET \$850,000
An enchanting view home has been redesigned w/ great attention to detail. 4+BR/2BA, gorgeous kitchen, dining room & living room. Lovely garden. Helene Barkin



70 LATHAM LANE \$635,000
Architect's own home in the North Berkeley hills! 3BR + studio/guest quarters w/ a secluded inner courtyard. A rare retreat with a striking design. Bebe McRae

2805 FULTON STREET \$595,000
Sweet Victorian with cottage. Main house is 3+BR, 2BA, LR, DR, parlor/family rm. Cottage has 1BR, 1BA, sunny kitchen. Wendy Sprague

BERKELEY - BY APPOINTMENT



NORTH BERKELEY \$649,000
The best of North Berkeley. This Prairie style home is conveniently located close to Gourmet Ghetto. 3BR/1.5BA + in-law potential. Linda Wolan

HAVE IT ALL! \$619,000
Striking architect remodeled kitchen! Family room, master suite w/ sitting room. Living room w/ fireplace. 3+BR/2BA. Wonderful gardens. Chris Cohn

GREAT LOCATION! \$595,000
Located in the Thousand Oaks neighborhood, close to Solano Ave. 3BR, separate dining room/family room, large bonus room, 1.5BA. Ruth Frassetto

BERKELEY \$399,500
Delightful 2BR/2BA condo just blocks from UC Campus & Gourmet Ghetto. Living room w/ vaulted ceilings. Dining Room. 2 fireplaces. Chris Cohn

BERKELEY LOT \$295,000
Fabulous Berkeley location. 7,000 sq.ft. lot with Bay views in fabulous Claremont Hills location among beautiful homes. Helene Barkin

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.

6557 ASCOT DR. \$1,495,000
New custom designed Mediterranean w/ peek-a-boo Bay views, expansive kitchen, soaring ceilings, beautiful garden space, 5BR/4.5BA. Anne Feste



835 ALVARADO ROAD \$1,195,000
Spacious Mediterranean with great Bay views. Fabulous kitchen, large family room & luxurious master suite. 5BR/3.5BA. John Karnay/ Mavis Delacroix

5820 BALMORAL DRIVE \$689,000
Stylish & updated! New kitchen for the serious cook. Enjoy the private gardens off the spacious family room. Great master suite. Angela Wei Grubb

5541 MAXWELTON ROAD \$699,000
New England Cape Cod classic floor plan. 3BR/2.5BA, great detail, charming sun room, private gardens & patio. Perfect location. Jill Carrigan



96 GLENEDEN AVENUE \$599,000
Close to Piedmont Ave., 3BR, 2BA, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, large level, sunny, attractive rear garden. Caoelyn Jones

368 SANTA CLARA AVE. \$549,000
Charming Prairie Style Craftsman with original floors and woodwork, updated kitchen, 2+BR/1+BA, & bonus room. Near shops & restaurants. Judith Cain



4489 MORAGA AVENUE \$489,000
Spanish bungalow near Piedmont Ave.'s shops & restaurants. 4BR, large living room w/ fireplace, formal dining room & eat-in kitchen. Bertina Balestrieri

5574 MERIEWOOD DR. \$289,000
Sweet cottage fixer in Montclair Hills. Large sunny lot with expansion potential in great Montclair location. 1+ bedrooms- contractors special. Jill Carrigan

OAKLAND - BY APPOINTMENT



CONTEMPORARY \$695,000
This exceptional home features a Bay view, open floor plan, family room off modern kitchen, elegant formal dining room & large master suite. Sherry Benninger

CONVENIENT RETREAT \$695,000
Wonderful Montclair retreat within close proximity to the Montclair Village & Rockridge district. 3BR/2BA and sunny eat-in kitchen. Debbi DiMaggio

VERY ATTRACTIVE \$499,000
SAN LEANDRO. A Mediterranean is in move-in condition, 4BR/2BA, formal living room and separate dining room, remodelled kitchen. Bertina Balestrieri

TWO HOMES - ONE LOT \$489,000
Very charming 2BR Craftsman bungalow and a one bedroom cottage. The bungalow is spacious and attractive, the cottage is comfortable & private. Judith Cain



CHARMING ROCKRIDGE \$379,000
Situating close to restaurants and shops with easy access to freeways. 2BR/1BA, updated kitchen in a lush garden setting. Mavis Delacroix



DOWN TOWN CONDO \$325,000
Enjoy urban living in this chic condominium. You won't have to go far to experience the exciting nightlife in Jack London Square. 2BR + loft. Mavis Delacroix

CHARMING LOCATION \$148,000
Downslope lot on private road w/ Bay views. Neighboring homes sold over 1.5 million. Experienced builders only please. Debra J. Dryden

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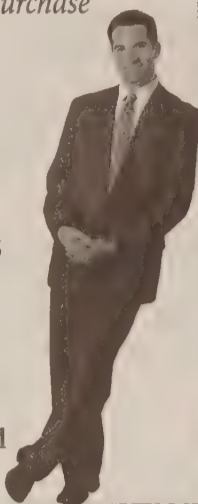
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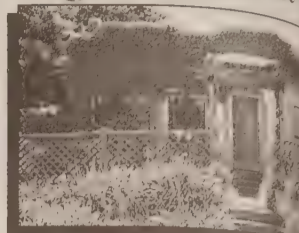


This formal estate is a dramatic three stories with four bedrooms and five and two half baths. An elegant home with exquisite appointments. A unique opportunity. Offered at \$4,980,000



Roberta Ousterman
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Just Sold



3015 Texas Street
Magical Home w/ Artist's Studio
Represented the buyer. Sold with 7000

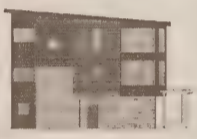


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DEAL OF THE MONTH

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2 New Listings



2215 E. 15th St., Oakland

Triplex - Two separate properties on one lot. Total 3 units, each unit 3 bedroom, 1 bath, garage and long driveway. Great price & opportunity for owner and investment. Priced at \$425,000.

OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4



1740 Liberty St. #8, El Cerrito

Super clean 2 bedroom, 2 bath condo in a courtyard setting, with bar & fireplace. Walk to BART. Asking \$279,000.

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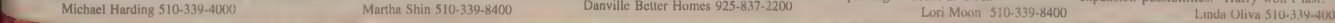
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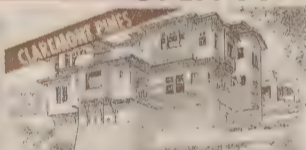
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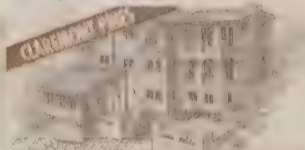
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Peter Nicolopoulos 531-7000 x248 or 339-9780**1138 DRURY ROAD, OAKLAND \$1,899,000**

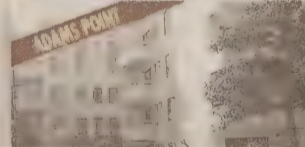
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Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292 or 485-7292**1961 TULARE AVENUE \$325,000**

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Don Dunning 531-7000 x239 or 485-7239**1280 GRAND VIEW, OAKLAND \$1,875,000**

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Mary Neuberger 531-7000 x251 or 485-7251**389 BELMONT AVENUE #108, OAKLAND \$285,000**

2/2 Lovely 1261 sq. ft. unit and a wonderfully pleasant tree outlook. Wall to wall carpet, large living room, dining area. Fireplace in LR, washer/dryer in unit.

Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238**3790 MANILA (off 38th St.), OAKLAND \$1,899,000**

New Listing! First time open. One block from Temescal District. Hardwood floors, large dining room, older kitchen, laundry and rear yard. Low pest report.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 485-7235**9306 THERMAL STREET, OAKLAND \$429,000**

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Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228 or 485-7228**APPEALING LAUREL DISTRICT BUNGALOW \$319,000**

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Stan Hammond 531-7000 x235 or 485-7235**MIX USE \$725,000**

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Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 654-6461**THREE UNITS OFF PARK BLVD. \$650,000**

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Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 654-6461**3 UNITS IN TEMESCAL DISTRICT \$319,000**

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Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 485-7235**1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND**
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SPORTS

• Friday, June 28, 2002 •

Section C

Local fans having a ball with World Cup

East Bay soccer diehards
getting much sleep
these days

By Mike McGreehan
STAFF WRITER

A group of fans milling around a radio on a street corner in Asunción, Paraguay. Or a group congregating around a TV in Rio de Janeiro.

Whether in person at the stadium or thousands of miles away, the World Cup match — like all other events — becomes much more enjoyable in the company of friends and fellow fans.

For those living in this time zone, the wee-hours schedule of the World Cup perhaps a bit less so than those of the past. Nevertheless, many try to keep the social spirit of the event alive. Some establishments, including the Bladium on Alameda Point, remain open around the clock to

accommodate a growing number of soccer diehards.

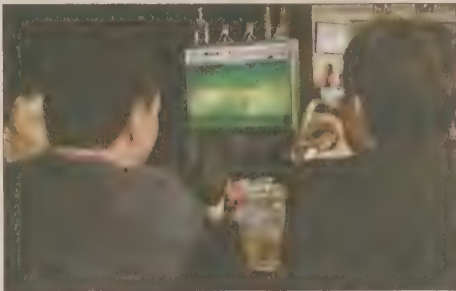
"A lot of the soccer players I know have been watching all night," said Luis Orellana, director of the Bladium's indoor soccer program. "People have been calling in sick to work, too (after the matches)."

Some employers might rejoice when the month-long tournament concludes Sunday. But, hey, the World Cup comes around once every four years. And the fans have had a ton of fun — even if it means cat-napping on the job in the day.

At the Bladium, a fan can play a little indoor soccer before heading upstairs to the club's sports bar. But the World Cup celebration is open to the general public and there have been some enthusiastic crowds.

As always, some teams attract more fans than others. Each match might have a slightly different clientele, too.

"When we had the Mexico



LOCAL SOCCER fans stay out late to watch the World Cup match between England and Brazil at the Bladium in Alameda.

game with Ecuador (late June 8-early June 9), we had a big Hispanic crowd," Orellana said. "We're hoping to get more Brazilians and Koreans in here (both Brazil and South Korea played in this week's semifinals)."

The Mexico-Ecuador match

began at 11:30 p.m., and fans could wash down their late-night snacks with a glass of beer while enjoying the game.

This year's World Cup, however, has presented a bit of a problem for sports bars as most of the matches have taken place

during the state-mandated "dry" hours between 2-6 a.m.

Soccer fans and bar operators both have persevered.

"What people do is drink coffee," Orellana said. "We serve food, too. And some people play pick-up soccer all night."

A classic matchup

Late June 20 and carrying into the early hours of June 21, soccer fans gather in the Bladium bar to witness two of the giants of the sport — England and Brazil — go at it in a quarterfinal. Brazil has won four World Cups and looks like a strong candidate for a fifth title. England has won just once, as the host country in 1966, but has traditionally produced some quality players and strong teams. Fans expect a classic match between teams of divergent styles, and Fútbol de Primera, the 2002 World Cup radio network, predicts the winner will go on to become the champion.

Before the opening whistle, the gathering crowd seems largely pro-English.

"I'm pulling for England for sure," says Sandy Sanders of Walnut Creek, who plays in the Bladium's indoor soccer league. "I like England's style of play better. Brazil is incredibly talented, but they (fake getting fouled) too much. I think if England wins, it opens up the tournament more for other teams."

Oakland's Bob Vaughn, who started an indoor team simply called Bob's Team, appreciated the qualities of both sides.

"It's tough. I haven't decided yet," Vaughn said. "I would say Brazil, but I like England, too."

Since the majority of the crowd is English-speaking, the bar switches from Univision, with its colorful Spanish narration and knowledgeable commentators, to ESPN2. Though everyone can understand the narration, it is de-

See WORLD CUP, Page 2



NORTH OAKLAND pitcher Andrew Cabrera took four hits in an 8-2 victory over the Walnut Creek Pirates in the Tournament of Champions.

No vacation for Pirates in loss to the Reds

De La Salle-bound
pitcher fires a four-hitter to
win North Oakland

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

PIEDMONT — He is out of school. He is supposed to be in vacation with his parents on summer vacation. He is not really a pitcher.

So where was Andrew Cabrera on Tuesday afternoon? On the mound at Witter Field, pitching for the North Oakland Little League Reds in the first game of the District Four Tournament of Champions against the Walnut Creek Pirates.

The De La Salle-bound right-hander, in only his third pitching

appearance of the season, fired a four-hitter to lead the Reds to an 8-2 victory over the Pirates to advance into the second round.

"I just wanted to start," he said. "We're supposed to be on vacation, but my whole family supported my decision to stay. I'm going to stay until we win."

"It was important that I go as long as I could, because we need all the pitching we can get. My fastball took a while to get going, but my changeup was good from the start. I just wanted to keep the batters off guard. I was getting a little tired at the end, but I was just trying to blow the ball by them."

Cabrera was the gamble Reds manager Al Carrasco was willing to take saving Berkeley res-

ident Lucas Fogerty, his best pitcher, for the second-round game. It was also the first game the Reds had played at "60-90," that is, a 60-foot pitching distance and 90-foot basepaths. The Reds had only played at "54-80."

"That did concern me," Carrasco said about the added distances. "We only had one practice (at those dimensions). We have a lot of gamers and we put a kid on the mound who only pitched twice and never at that distance. He is a bulldog."

The Reds (15-4) had a first-round bye in the TOC; the Pirates (16-5) were supposed to play a team from Pittsburg National here on Monday but for some reason or other went to Albany and had to forfeit.

Cabrera was touched for a run in the top of the first when Nate Yannone walked, went to second on a ground out, to third on a wild pitch and came home when Kevin Klinck singled to left.

The Reds tied it up in the bottom of the first off Yannone, a little left-hander with a slow curve and a slower curve. Patience at the plate was a virtue for the Reds' hitters; they learned it, but it took some time.

With two outs, Cabrera was safe on an error, stole second and scored when Keith Humphrey laced a single to left. Further damage was narrowly averted when Pirates' right fielder Travis Volkman made a diving catch

See REDS, Page 2

Cardinals don't have enough to top Giants

By Scott Strain
STAFF WRITER

CONCORD — Albany pitcher Chris Alaniz gave it all he had last Friday in the first round of the District 4 Tournament of Champions Majors division but it wasn't enough as the Cardinals lost to the North Oakland Giants 5-2 and were eliminated.

Alaniz pitched a mammoth game for Albany (17-8) striking out 13 (out of a possible 18 outs) but contributed to his own downfall by making a throwing error that allowed the tie-breaking run to score in the sixth inning.

At one point, Alaniz struck out seven consecutive batters between the third and fifth innings as both his fastball and curve were working.

Even with its starter throwing bullets, Albany never led in the game. Alaniz survived a shaky first inning as the visiting Giants (19-7) scored two runs on two hits. One run scored on a passed ball, the other on a wild pitch. Albany also committed one error in the inning.

The Cardinals got one run back in the bottom of the first off Giants starter Ryan Walterhouse, the No. 3 pitcher in the team's rotation. With one out, Kevin Walters doubled to right and, one out later, Grant Long hit a ball that bounced over the left field



ALBANY CARDINALS pitcher Chris Alaniz pitches against the North Oakland Giants.

fence for a ground-rule double. That scored Walters.

Alaniz held the Giants to two hits over the next two innings (one by Berkeley resident Jamie Knauer), striking out four in the process, and Albany tied the game at 2-2 in the bottom of the third.

Walters popped a double in short left and went to third on a grounder by Alaniz. Long popped a short single to center and Walters

See CARDINALS, Page 2

Caraballo steps down as St. Mary's coach

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER

Jose Caraballo, who helped transform the St. Mary's High School's boys basketball team into one of the top programs in the state, has resigned from his position as Panthers coach.

Caraballo, 39, said Friday that he handed his resignation to Brother Edmond Larouche, president of St. Mary's, on Thursday.

"I've thought about it for a while," Caraballo said. "I just didn't feel supported by the administration as a teacher or coach."

"I thank St. Mary's for the opportunity they gave me."

Caraballo, who taught Spanish at St. Mary's, said he also resigned from his teaching position.

Caraballo helped turn the Panthers' program from a sub-500 team in 1996 to a California Interscholastic Federation State Division IV champion in 2001. His team qualified for North Coast Section play in each of his seven seasons, totaling a 147-67 overall record. The team hasn't finished with a losing overall record since his first season in 1995-1996, and in the last two seasons, the Panthers produced a 59-8 record and two Bay Shore Athletic League titles. Last season, St. Mary's petitioned up to Division I and advanced to the Northern California semifinals before falling to eventual NorCal champion Oakland Tech.

The position was Caraballo's first as a head boys basketball

varsity coach.

"I'm most proud about my kids, the commitment they made to me, the school and the program. What I'm most proud of is their hard work and dedication," Caraballo said. "I had two goals when I started the job: to win state and to go to Division I. I guess I accomplished both those goals."

Caraballo said that he does not have another job at this time. He said that he interviewed with USC coach Henry Bibby about an assistant men's coaching position last week, but did not know the outcome of that interview.

St. Mary's athletics director Jay Lawson said the letter of resignation was accepted. He said that the school will be looking to fill the coaching position and teaching position, but they don't necessarily have to be the same person.

Lawson said that ideally the school would like to fill the position in the next 10 to 14 days.

"We want to fill the head coaching position quickly, but make sure we get the right person," Lawson said.

FOOTBALL

Freedom High School has hired Jason Hartwig to take over the varsity coaching position that had been vacant since Larry Rodriguez resigned in early March.

Hartwig and Rodriguez practically will be trading places.

See COACH, Page 2

Arts



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

Top exec at Clear Channel speaks up

Broadcasting conglomerate Clear Channel, it seems, is everyone's favorite target these days. (And for good reasons, arguably). A recent New York Times piece referred to the giant Texas-based company as "the controversial poster child of deregulated media," adding that Clear Channel seems to be headed for as much time in court as on air. It seems that Texas-based Clear Channel, which now owns an astonishing 1,200 radio stations plus 100 concert venues, gazillions of billboards, and 35 TV stations, is being sued by everybody — the recording industry (charging "payola"), a concert promoter, a Chicago concertgoer, etc. The FCC has been flooded with complaints about alleged anti-competitive practices by giant Clear Channel. Clear Channel, which few people in the Bay Area had ever heard about five years ago, is not only the biggest radio owner by far; it's also the country's biggest billboard and concert-hall operator. It's just acquired its first Bay Area TV station, Santa Rosa's Channel 54.9, as part of a deal with a Seattle billboard and TV company (Ackerley) that doubled Clear Channel's TV-station holdings.

Clear Channel owns the legal limit of major San Francisco/San Jose radio stations (Wild 94.9, KMEL, CNET, KABL, Star-101.3, KSJO, "The 98" and KKSF). Its billings are the highest of any radio station here.

I've taken plenty of shots at many in radio call "Cheap Krampf." I wanted to get the other side of the story, so I scheduled a lunch with the perambulant Ed Krampf, Clear Channel's local "group captain," the guy who oversees about 50 of the ubiquitous Clear Channel's stations all the way up to Oregon.

I've known easygoing (!) New Yorker Krampf for about 20 years, since the days when I ran Live-105 and I served as an intermediary to help Krampf in morning man Alex Ben-Neti. Krampf, an Alamo resident who worked for Clear Channel in L.A. after leaving Live-105, is a mensch, an un-likely guy to head what some radio people (many of them off call "the evil empire.") Krampf is obviously chafing at the constant attacks on his company, saying, "This is the best company I've ever worked for. We didn't make these FCC ownership rules; we just play by them."

As for the "Cheap Channel" label, Krampf says that "our talent here is very well-paid." He says "Wild's" juvenile, mean-spirited (my words, not Krampf's) but highly rated "Dog House" morning duo of Chris and VJ make "around \$1 million combined." And that Kieran K-101 (now "Star 98.3") morning man Don Henley, while he did indeed take 50 percent pay cut from Clear Channel, is still making around \$500K. "Not bad money, especially at 'Cheap Channel.'" As for complaints about conglomerates reducing the diversity of ownership of broadcast stations, Krampf says, "We have no shortage of diversity of the audience we serve. We have two urban stations ('Wild,' KMEL); the only one serving older listeners (nostalgia station KABL); and another also serving minorities ('Kiss' 98.1). Looking at this market 10 years ago, when we did have local radio, and tell me we had more diverse programming."

Krampf, sipping a lemonade at a restaurant across the street from PacBell Park (his stations' studios are nearby), is a stand-up guy. He admits that all those TV ads for "Leza" featuring L.A. singer Leezza Gibbons "were my call." He calmly explains, "Leezza's an identifiable figure that the station's female listen-



WINONA RYDER and Adam Sandler star in "Mr. Deeds," the remake of a Capra classic.

'Deeds' remake fails to charm

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

The new Adam Sandler movie "Mr. Deeds" is shallower than a puddle in Death Valley in the middle of July, and, in terms of entertainment value, about as useful as an umbrella in said location at said time.

Based on the 1936 Frank Capra movie "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," presumably not a cult classic in the Adam Sandler demographic, "Mr. Deeds" purports to show us how fine the heart of a small-town man is, how it will beat on, earnestly and honorably, no matter what corporate or tabloid America does to defile all that is good and true in that man.

Sandler, last seen in "Little Nicky," another piece of catatonic comic drive from director Steven Brill, plays Longfellow Deeds, the unwitting heir to a mega-media fortune. His great-uncle, whom he has never met or heard of, dies while mountain climbing and leaves him with \$40 billion worth of shares in his media corporation.

Thus far, Deeds has lived a peaceful life in a bucolic New Hampshire town called Mandrake Falls (located in Vermont in the original). He owns a pizza parlor and fantasizes about selling sappy greeting cards to Hall-

- REVIEW**
- **WHAT:** "Mr. Deeds"
 - **STARRING:** Adam Sandler, Winona Ryder, John Turturro, Steve Buscemi, Peter Gallagher, Jared Harris
 - **RATING:** PG-13 (language, including sexual references and some nudity)
 - **RUNNING TIME:** 1 hour, 31 minutes
 - **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters
 - **GRADE:** D+
 - **RELATED ARTICLE:** Adam Sandler says he just wants to make people laugh. Page 19

mark. Money means nothing to him. It's yet another nice-guy role for Sandler (yawn), who digs deep into his actor's soul to portray a New Englander. That is to say, he wears a Woolrich-style jacket and uses the term "wicked" on at least 10 occasions.

Deeds is swept away to New York City by a couple of devious stockholders (Peter Gallagher and Erick Avari), who want him to sign over his stocks so they can rape and pillage the company's assets.

What we're expecting at this point is that Deeds, with his small-town bonhomie, will teach corporate America a lesson about how to run a company, in much the same way that "Pretty Woman's" highly ethical hooker showed corporate raider Richard Gere how icky his job was.

Hardly. It's true that Deeds shows a willingness to hug and befriend everyone he meets, including his great-uncle's Spanish butler (John Turturro, who manages to get a few legitimate laughs with minimal material). But mostly he passes his time in Manhattan proving he can throw a punch (humor designed for the 3-and-under set) and falling in love with the tabloid television reporter (Winona Ryder) who's been assigned to gather dirt on him. She goes undercover, posing as a school nurse from a small town in Iowa, presumably so that Deeds will feel comfortable with her. But he's such a clueless dolt, she could have just told him the truth. He wouldn't have gotten it anyway.

As for Ryder, she acts entirely with her eyebrows, wiggling them around wildly like a silent movie star. Whoever costumed her seems to have had it in her; this beautiful actress has

never looked less interesting. Still, her mere presence, rapid though it is, seemed to please the preview audience, who know their "Access Hollywood." She was on-screen for about a minute before a member of the preview audience belted out "shoplifter," producing what may have been the most satisfying giggle of the movie.

"Mr. Deeds" is comically flat and flawed on many levels, but it fails most spectacularly in its insulting supposition that moviegoers remain as clueless about small-town life in America as "Mr. Deeds'" writers and producers do. In 1936, certainly there were sharp distinctions between urban experiences and those one might experience in a small New England town. In 2002, living in New Hampshire hardly qualifies one for the kind of sheltered existence Deeds is supposed to have led. He's never even been on a date, let alone left the confines of Mandrake Falls. To find a true innocent in this day and age, perhaps the writers should have looked to outer space.

Mary Pols can be reached at 925-945-4741 or at mpols@ctimes.com.

'City of Angels' takes wing at the Masquers

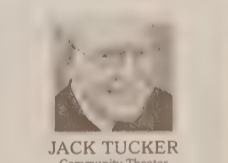
CITY OF ANGELS, playing at Point Richmond's Masquers Playhouse weekends through July 20 is a double-header hit. Nothing to do with baseball, of course. This clever production is dual-headed in the way it blends two types of escapist genres — the tough, private eyeball detective yarn and the theatrical musical — into a seamless, single new creation that ought to satisfy devotees of both camps.

Director Linda Ellinwood deftly manages to keep the stereoscopic plot in sharp focus.

It also helps that a word wizard like Larry Gelbart wrote the book. Original blood and transform the body into movie "M*A*S*H" into chuckling family TV fare has no trouble with funniness up a Raymond Chandler-like plot for a musical. Cy Coleman's music and David Zippel's lyrics keep the show humming along, although the tunes are not particularly hummable after you leave the theater.

John Hull's silhouette backdrop of the Hollywood hills and its world-known sign along the skyline immediately set the scene of this show. The size and shape and tones of black and gray suggest a movie screen. The same monotone, incidentally, appears occasionally during the show.

Parallel plots unfold simultaneously. A playwright named Stine (David Irving) is trying to adapt his novel for the screen. His central character is a private detective named Stone



JACK TUCKER
Community Theater

(played by Bruce Lundy). When the fictional characters come alive in scenes — including a runaway heiress Stone is hired to find, and the bad guys who are out to beat him up — the colors are suggestive of the black-and-white of the written word. When the action shifts to real life, Stine, his wife and girlfriend, his producer/director (robustly played by Michael O'Brien), the colors become lifelike. Neat touch, guys, especially Hull, Jo Lusk (costume design), and Drew Pertulla (lighting design).

Good work by others in a large cast, mostly playing multiple roles, notably Jane Barnes, Joan Nelson, Shay Oglesby-Smith, Laura Pedersen-Schulz, Charles Evans and Patrick Sanchez. And not forgetting the pit orchestra under the direction of pianist Pat King along with Barb Kohler (drums and percussion), Lusk (in her alter-costume role on flute and keyboard bass), Ben Stough (keyboard) and Jim Ware (trumpet).

In one word — to copy one of O'Brien's Goldwyn-style Hollywood producer malapropisms — "Really good show!" "City of Angels" plays at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2:30 p.m. Sundays (June



MYLA BALUGAY plays a teen married too soon in "Abingdon Square." The play runs through July 6 at the Julia Morgan Theatre.

30, July 7 and 14) through July 20. Tickets are \$14. Masquers Playhouse is at 105 Park Place, Point Richmond. Call 510-232-4031.

COOL: "Abingdon Square." Shotgun Players' current offering at the Julia Morgan Theatre.

- EVENTS**
- Outdoors**
- BROOKS ISLAND** — "Intro to Kayaking," July 6, 10 a.m. A brief introduction to equipment and strokes with a trip through the Richmond Harbor. For ages 14 and over. Registration required. \$85 to \$95.
- "Brooks Island Voyage,"** July 7, 10 a.m. Paddle the rising tide across Richmond Harbor Channel to Brooks Island to explore the natural and cultural history. Enjoy views from its rocky peak. For ages 14 and over. Registration required. \$15 to \$17.
- \$15 to \$17.** Just off the Richmond Inner Harbor, Richmond. 510-636-1684 or www.ebparks.org
- CRAB COVE VISITOR CENTER** — "Mud and Rocks - Home Sweet Home," June 29, 11 a.m. Visit the dream homes of burrowing creatures and "clinging-ons" found along the Bay shoreline. Discoveries abound while the tide is out, revealing an abundance of life to experience up close.
- Return of the Terns,"** June 30, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Celebrate the return of the least tern to Alameda with slides, crafts, and more. For ages 6 and over. Registration required.
- "View Least Terns,"** June 30, noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. View endangered California least terns at their nesting colony on a one-hour bus trip to the Alameda Wildlife Refuge. Space is limited. Registration required. \$6 to \$8.
- Free unless noted otherwise. Registration required. 1252 McKay Ave., Alameda. 510-521-6887
- DUNSMUIR HOUSE AND GARDENS HISTORIC ESTATE** through Sept. 25. Nestled in the Oakland hills, the 40-acre Dunsmuir House and Gardens estate includes the 37-room Dunsmuir Mansion, built by coal and lumber baron Alexander Dunsmuir for his bride. Restored outbuildings set amid landscaped gardens surround the mansion.
- "Family Sundays,"** through Sept. 1. Enjoy G-rated entertainment, including puppetry, magic, music and dancing. Afternoon programs include docent-led tours of the Dunsmuir Mansion and self-guided garden tours.
- July 7, noon to 3 p.m.:** Bring a picnic and enjoy mansion tours at 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. as well as entertainment by The Bubble Lady at 1:15 p.m. and 2:15 p.m. \$5 general; \$4 seniors, free children age 13 and under.
- Tours of the Mansion, Wednesday, 11 a.m. to noon.** Docents will lead visitors on a guided tour of the 37-room mansion and the estate's historic landscaping. Wear low-heeled shoes; no high heels allowed in the mansion. \$5 general; \$4 seniors, free children age 13 and under.
- GROUNDS** The 50 acres of gardens and grounds at the mansion are open to the public. Free Self-Guided Grounds Tour maps are available at Dinkelspiel House. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free Dunsmuir House and Gardens Historic Estate, 2960 Peralta Oaks Court, Oakland. 925-275-9490 or 510-615-5555 or www.dunsmuir.org
- MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. REGIONAL SHORELINE** — "Intro to Bay Paddling," July 7, 10 a.m. An intermediate level class for paddlers with previous experience. Learn proper strokes and maneuvers and tide/current basics while paddling on the Bay. Practice capsize recoveries and earn a certificate to rent a kayak. Registration required. \$85 to \$95.
- Swan Way and Shoreline Park Road, Oakland. 510-636-1684.
- OAKLAND ZOO** — The zoo includes a Children's Petting Zoo, the Skyride, a miniature train, a carousel, picnic grounds and a gift shop as well as the animals in site-specific exhibits, which allow them to roam freely. \$7.50 general; \$4.50 seniors and children age 2 to 14; free children under age 2; \$3 parking fee. Daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Knowland Park, 9777 Golf Links Road, off Interstate Highway 580, Oakland. 510-632-9525 or www.oaklandzoo.org
- THE USS POTOMAC** — The 165-foot presidential yacht USS Potomac, called the "Floating White House" when it was refurbished at the beginning of World War II for use by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, has been restored to its World War II splendor.
- Dockside Tours, ongoing.** Tours of the Potomac at the dock are about 45 minutes. Tours canceled when weather is bad and the decks are too slippery to be safe; call ahead if the weather is rainy. Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 3:15 p.m. \$3 general; \$2 seniors; \$1 youths age 6 to 17; free children under age 6; \$5 family rate for two adults and children.
- USS Potomac:** FDR Pier, Foot of Clay Street, northwest end of Jack London Square, Oakland. Potomac Visitor Center: 540 Water St., Oakland. 510-839-8256 or 510-627-1215.
- REDWOOD REGIONAL PARK** — "Redwood History Stroll," June 29, 3 p.m. Step back in time to imagine condors overhead and grizzlies in the blackberry bushes. Discover the area's history while walking under second-growth redwoods. Registration required. 510-521-6887.
- Free:** \$4 parking fee. 7861 Redwood Road, Oakland. 510-636-1684 or www.ebparks.org
- REI BERKELEY** — "Hands-On Bicycle Repair Clinics," through July 28, 11 a.m. The basics of bicycle repair. Bring your bicycle; tools will be provided.
- July 14:** Drive train maintenance and chain repair.
- July 28:** Brake adjustments.
- Free unless otherwise noted. 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 510-527-4140.
- TILDEN REGIONAL PARK** — "Sex and

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Pat Craig and Mary F. Potts. Times: Robert W. Butler, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Glenn Lovell, San Jose Mercury News; Anthony Breznican, David Germalin, Christie Lamire, Tim Molloy, Sheila Norman-Culp and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Jan Stuart, Newsday; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elvys Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Valerie Kukienski, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Kevin Thomas and Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times; Gary Dowell, Tom Maustard, Chris Vognar and Philip Winter, Dallas Morning News; and Roder Moore, Orlando Sentinel.

"AMELIE": A feel-good movie in the best possible sense, a comic fable from French director Jean-Pierre Jeunet that vibrates with joy and fast-dances with life. Amelie (the relentlessly charming Audrey Tautou) is a lonely young lady who keeps a watchful eye on the rest of the world

Showtimes for Friday June 28

Albany Twin
1115 Solano Ave. Albany 510-843-3456
● Monsoon Wedding (R) 1, 4, 6:45, 9:15
● Sunshine State (PG-13) 1:30, 5, 8.

Chabot Space & Science Center ★
10000 Skyline Blvd, Oakland 510-336-7300
● **Mysteries of Egypt** (Not Rated) 12:30, 7:30.
● **The Living Sea** (Not Rated) 11:30, 2:30, 8:30
● **To Be an Astronaut** (Not Rated) 10:30.

Elmwood 3
2966 College Ave., Berkeley 510-649-0530
●Amelle (R) 5.
●Italian for Beginners (R) 12:40, 7:20
●The Believer (R) 7.
●The Lord of the Rings (PG-13) 1, 4:45, 8:15.
●The Piano (R) 2:30, 9:15
●Unfaithful (R) 1:45, 4:20, 9:25.

Renaissance Grand Lake
3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland 510-452-3556

- Bad Company (PG-13) 9.
- Ya-Ya Sisterhood (PG-13) 2:05, 4:20, 6:45.
- Minority Report (PG-13) 12:15, 3:30, 7, 10.
- Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron (G) 12:25.
- Star Wars: Episode II (PG) 12, 3:15, 6:30, 9:15.
- Bourne Identity 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

- Juwann Mann 12, 2:20, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45
- Lilo & Stitch 10:45, 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 9:55
- Minority Report 12:15, 3:45, 7:10, 10:20.
- Mr. Deeds (PG-13) 11:15, 3, 3:25, 4:30, 5:55, 7, 8:20, 9:30, 10:05
- Scooby-Doo 10:30, 12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:30, 9:40.
- Spider-Man 11:05, 1:50, 4:40, 7:25, 10:25.
- Sum of All Fears (PG-13) 1:35, 4:20, 7:20, 10:25.
- Undercover Brother (PG-13) 10:50, 1:10, 10:45

Renaissance Oaks Theatre
★
1875 Solano Avenue, Berkeley 510-526-1836
●Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood (PG-13) 7, 9:15.
●Late Marriage (Not Rated) 7:35, 9:35.
●Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron (G) 6.

Parkway Theater
1834 Park Blvd., Oakland 510-814-2400
●*Amelle* (R) 9:45.
●*Insomnia* (R) 6:30, 9:15.
●*Unfaithful* (R) 7.

Piedmont Theatre
4186 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-843-3456
●**About a Boy** (PG-13) 2:20, 4:45, 7, 9:20.
●**Monsoon Wedding** (R) 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15.
●**Y Tu Mamá También** (Not Rated) 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:35.

Shattuck Cinemas ★
2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-3456
●**About a Boy** (PG-13) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35.
●**Elling** (R) 12:40, 2:45, 4:45, 7:10, 9:15.
●**Home Movie** (Not Rated) 1:30, 5:30, 9:35.
Example (R) 1:55, 4:25, 6:55.

- **Juwanna Mann** (PG-13) 1:45, 4, 6:45, 9:05.
- **Lilo & Stitch** (PG) 12:35, 2:50, 4:50, 7:05, 9:20.
- **My Big Fat Greek Wedding** (PG) 2:05, 4:15, 6:30, 8:45.
- **The Emperor's New Clothes** (PG) 1:40, 4:05, 6:50, 9:10.
- **The Importance of Being Earnest** (PG) 2, 4:20, 7, 9:30.
- **Undercover Brother** (PG-13) 3:30, 7:30.
- **Y Tu Mamá También** (NR) 1:35, 3:55, 6:25, 9.

United Artists Berkeley
2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-1487

"BAD COMPANY": A misguided marriage of genres, the comic fish-out-of-water story meets serious action thriller, from director Joel Schumacher. Chris Rock plays separated-at-birth twins, a streetwise hustler and a well-educated yuppie CIA operative. When the agent gets killed in the middle of a mission to keep a nuclear device from falling into the wrong hands, his boss (Anthony Hopkins) enlists the hustler to stand in for him. The CIA represented here is inconceivably inept (even in today's climate), Rock talks so fast we miss half his lines, and Hopkins looks bored. — M. Polis. (PG-13; intense scenes of action violence, some sensuality and language.) 1 hour, 51 minutes. **D+**

"THE BELIEVER": Danny Baliant is the most complex cinematic character you'll encounter this summer, and Ryan Gosling, the young actor who plays him, delivers a startling performance. Danny is a contemptible neo-Nazi skinhead. He's also a Jew. We're never entirely sure of his motivations, because writer/director Henry Bean gives us only hints, but Gosling's performance keeps us riveted. The violence is hard to take, but it's played with as much as delicacy

as possible by Bean, who is more interested in the rage behind it than the act itself. It would be a great movie if the pieces didn't fall together with suspicious patness at the end. With Summer Phoenix as Danny's love interest. — M. Pols. (R: strong violence, language and some sexual content.) 1 hour 38 minutes. **B+**

"THE BOURNE IDENTITY": Director Doug Liman ("Swingers," "Go") revitalizes the thriller genre with this brisk adaptation of Robert Ludlum's novel about a spy with amnesia. Matt Damon makes a very fine Jason Bourne, conveying both his strengths (marital arts, ruthless planning, excellent language skills) and his weaknesses (disorientation, desperation about his future, and a soft spot for kids that no spy should ever have). "Run Lola Run" star Franka Potente plays his love interest, and the chemistry between the two of them seems genuine. The script is intelligent, the story engaging and there's never a dull moment. Hallelujah! — M. Pols. (PG-13: violence and some language.) 2 hours, 1 minute. **A-**

"CHERISH": Quirky little movie about loneliness, set in San Francisco. Social misfit Zoe (Robin Tunney) gets carjacked, accidentally kills a cop and ends up in the electronic bracelet program while she awaits trial. She keeps busy listening to '80s hits on the radio and flirting with the deputy (Tim Blake Nelson) who visits to make sure her bracelet is working. There are a lot of obvious influences at play here, from "Play Misty For Me" to "Run Lola Run," and some plot points that make no sense, but Tunney and director Finn Taylor keep things consistently interesting. — M. Pols. (R; language.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. **C+**

"CQ": In Roman Coppola's (son of Francis) directorial debut, we follow the misadventures of Paul (Jeremy Davies), a hopeless romantic living in Paris in 1969. Paul is a film director wannabe who gets his big break while working as editor on a no-budget soft-movie. When the director is fired, Paul is left to take over and come up with a good ending. As he worries over what to do, Paul begins fantasizing about the film's leading lady (supermodel/first-time actress Angela Lindvall), his dreams taking on the surreal quality of the cheesy movie he's supposed to fix. The film's inspired blend of humor, camp and reflection mark Coppola as a family member to watch. **G**
Whip. (R: some nudity, profanity.) 1 hour, 40 minutes. **B**

DIVINE SECRETS OF THE YA-YA SISTERHOOD **PG.** Director Callie Khouri's adaptation is more restrained than Rebecca Wells' overwritten book, but it's still soaked in enough gushy sentimentality to give the practical-minded (and most men) hives. Playwright Sidda Wells (Sandra Bullock) feuds with her difficult, alcoholic mother Vivi (Ellen Burstyn), and mom's hard-drinking best friends, Teensy (Fionnula Flanagan), Caro


(Maggie Smith) and Nectie (Shirley Knight), intervene to patch things up. They give Sidda a crash course in what made Vivi who she is — including a tour of her youth, where she's played by a very fine Ashley Judd. There's some interesting material here about ambitious women trapped by marriage and motherhood, but this still feels like one long, gabby therapy session. — M. Pols. (PG-13: mature thematic elements, language and brief sexuality.) 1 hour, 56 minutes. **C**

"ENOUGH": This Jennifer Lopez would-be thriller fails on so many different levels, it's impossible to mention them all. The acting is inept, with the best performances turn in by J.Lo's numerous tight shirts; the suspense is telegraphed so broadly that scenes designed to make you leap out of your seat make you want to leap up and run for the exit; and the plot is so incredibly stupid, you know exactly what will happen before you pop the top of your Junior Minis. There must be something to recommend this film, it's just that nothing comes to mind right now. Oh yeah, the photography is really nice. — P. Craig (PG-13: intense domestic violence, some sensuality and language, mind-numbing stupidity.) **D+**

"THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING": A soulful, passionate giant of a movie, one that will live long past 2001. New Zealand director Peter Jackson's ("Heavenly Creatures") adaptation of the first third of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic "Lord of the Rings" enraptures you with its dramatic storytelling and visuals and leaves you rejoicing that there are filmmakers out there with the guts to make a movie destined for vast

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commercial success that's also intelligent and ferociously heartfelt. Terrifying when it should be, moving when it should be, this holds true to Tolkien's vision. One of the best movies of the year. — M. Pols. (PG-13: epic battle sequences and scary images.) 2 hours, 58 minutes. **A**

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST": Oscar Wilde is, as a rule, hard to screw up. Put his witty words in the mouths of even a group of high school thespians and they sound pretty fine. But director Oliver Parker, who did a decent job with Wilde's "An Ideal Husband" a few years ago, has managed to turn in such an oddly limp version of "Earnest" that it's hard to believe it's Wilde at all. The love affairs, between Cecily (Reese Witherspoon) and Algernon (Rupert Everett) and Jack/Earnest (Colin Firth) and Gwendolen (Frances O'Connor), lack chemistry, so we never get emotionally invested in the story. Judi Dench has some fun moments, but even she doesn't seem up to par. And Parker's attempts to spruce the story up with some weird touches of modernity, including a trip to a tattoo parlor, fall very flat. — M. Pils. (PG; mild sensuality) 1 hour, 40 minutes. C

"INSOMNIA": In this moody thriller from "Memento" director Christopher Nolan, Al Pacino plays a Los Angeles cop under investigation by Internal Affairs. Apparently to keep him out of trouble, his superiors ship him off to Alaska to help out with a murder mystery in Nightmute, a town right out of David Lynch. But no one reminded him to bring his sleeping pills to the Land of the Midnight Sun. As Pacino gets closer to catching the killer behind the murder and the

haunted and freaked out. Pacino is in top form (it's a no-shouting, no-spriting role for him, thankfully), and all the supporting actors, from Robin Williams in an unusually dark role to Maura Tierney as a sympathetic inkeeper, do fine work. May lack the creative spark of "Memento," but it's a more complete movie: tightly paced, intelligent and emotionally engaging. — M. Pols. (R: language, some violence and brief nudity.) 1 hour 55 minutes. **A-**

"ITALIAN FOR BEGINNERS":
Strangest of surprises, the latest offering from Dogma 95, the Danish film movement more known for being disturbing than for being strange, is

reduces the concept of love and happiness to the movement. Six lonely people take Italian lessons one winter in Copenhagen and begin, tentatively, to gravitate toward each other. Not a traditional chick flick, though; it's got its fair share of depressing elements, such as death, addiction, late alcohol syndrome and sexual dysfunction, buried within the froth of love and comedy. And it's inescapably a Dogma movie: murky and drab. But its still got the heart to

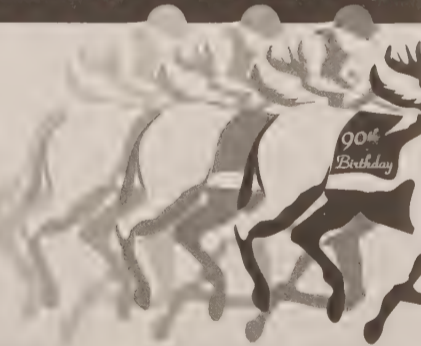
"LATE MARRIAGE" (Dolby Stereo) is the cleverest, most delectable of comedies of the year. It's likely to cause a stir for its scene, which is one of the erotic and passionate to be featured in a sexual revolve around a sexual tempt to hook up their (Ashkenazi) with a young woman, a divorcee and daughter. The relationship touching and compared a remarkable deb. complex and lengthy lovemaking. In Georgian and English subtitles.

plished and entrancing comedy and drama from Nair ("Mississippi days, a flustered P... prepares for a... between his only... engineer from H... the bride is still... ned lover, and he... about to drop... family. As thorough... tie, steamy and be... serious and j... dings actually...

"MY BIG FAT GREEN EYES" (Nia Fatah) A freak of nature in a community because of his size, a 30-year-old restaurant, she's as gorgeous he is wise. "It's a life makeover. Ian [school teacher] to Old-Country pastime at first, his love for her like she's his life. But because comedy children to be raised everything will be raised. Varda and are Celine and enough to make more tolerable to make a romantic comedy. It's sensuality and a little minutes C+

See REVIEWS 3

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Calendar

FROM PAGE C6

by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and has a main entrance. Call 204-4444 for information.

New Pieces Gallery on Solano Ave. shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m., except holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Literary Events

Waters signs copies of her new book, "Chez Panisse Fruit," at the Berkeley Farmers' Market from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 29, Center Street at Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. The book includes essays on selecting, storing and preparing delicious fruits. Waters is the winner of national and international awards for her writing as a chef. For details call 548-3332 or visit online at www.ecologycenter.org.

The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it aloud with a synthesized voice. It is available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call at 644-6848 to set up a training session.

Meetings

Improve your speaking skills by attending Berkeley Communicators' Toastmasters meetings, the first and third Wednesdays each month at 7:15 a.m. at Vault's Cafe, 3250 Adeline St. Call 527-2337 for more information.

The Berkeley Camera Club meets Tuesday evenings 7:30 p.m. at the Nombree Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more details call Don at 525-3565.

Julia Morgan Center for the Arts hosts an informational and discussion session regarding dance opportunities on the Bay Area. The center opens its doors to the dance community and presents its plans for Dance Week 2002 and for future dance performances on the stage of Julia Morgan Theatre. The event is free. RSVP to Bridget Frederick at bridget@juliamorgan.org or by calling 845-8542, ext. 302. Visit the Web site at www.juliamorgan.org for more details.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 25 meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The evening begins with a potluck dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at 2068 Center St. A short business meeting follows at 8 p.m. at

1931 Center St., the Veterans Memorial Building. Price: \$3. Women who have had relatives in the US Military are invited to attend and join the auxiliary. For more information, call R. DeRiti, Cmdr. D.A.V. Chapter 25, 916-372-8364.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public and the great variety of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-6370.

The Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together. For more information, call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

Berkeley Toastmasters Club meet monthly, on the first and third Thursdays at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The group specializes in developing its communication and public speaking skills in the field of metaphysics. The group also learn from each other through short speeches. Call Odette Larde at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

The Kensington Senior Activity Center meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Avenue Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for additional information.

The YWCA offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For information, call 848-6370.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters, The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and

Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. For additional information call 204-4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

"Voices of Healing" is a group exploring the psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness and healing. The group meets on the second Friday of each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for more information.

State Health Toastmasters Club meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment; 7 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; (415) 461-5337, \$20.

Alta Bates Support Group - Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503 Call for additional special events

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12-step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

TOPS; 9:30 a.m., Mondays; Take Pounds Off Sensibly Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free

monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way Berkeley. Details: 204-4503.

Music

La Pena Chorus celebrates its imminent departure for Mexico in a performance at 8 p.m. today. The chorus is traveling in July to perform, meet musicians, and learn more about Latin America. The group has learned new songs from Mexico, Cuba, Venezuela, and the U.S. Cost. \$12 to \$15. For more information, call 849-2568 or visit the Web site at www.lapena.org

"A Night Out with the Young Musicians Program (YMP)," takes place at 8 p.m. Tuesday, July 2, at Yoshi's Jazz House, Jack London Square. YMP is an honors program for exceptionally talented low-income youth. Proceeds benefit the Art Farmer Scholarship of UC Berkeley's Young Musicians Program. Hear flugelhornist Dmitri Matheny and European virtuoso Anina Filgarova, with saxophonists Dave Ellis and Charles McNeal, jazz legend Akira Tana, flutist Bart Plateau, bassist Ruth Davies, Hilom Oba and Christopher Turner, and the YMP Jazz Combo. Tickets \$30 VIP (preferred seating and post-show reception)/\$22 general admission/\$15 students and seniors at Yoshi's box office. For tickets or more information call 238-9200, 642-9394 or visit the Web site at www.yoshis.com

The Distaff Singers, an established East Bay Women's chorus, is seeking new members. No auditions required just a love of singing. Classical, pop, sacred, Broadway. Rehearsals Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Call Michelle 601-5624, or L.J. 482-1677

Duckan Distones, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaac Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fretless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at

Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information

Friday Night Folk Dancing, 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave., \$4, call 525-1542

JULY 25

The UC Berkeley Botanical Garden 200 Centennial Drive, Strawberry Canyon, offers a free sick plant clinic on the first Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon. Dr. Raabe will diagnose. For more information, call 643-2755

Learn to feed and care for orphaned baby birds: house sparrows, starlings and pigeons are introduced species

that are not afforded care by rehabilitation groups. You can make an important contribution in returning these species to the wild life they deserve to have. Free training and some supplies. Call Myrna 531-3042 or Lella 655-3911

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way offers "Scribble Time," a technique that helps participants understand themselves and find focus. The group meets on Tuesdays by appointment and is free to YWCA members. Call 848-6370 for additional information; leave a message for Anne Levine

East Bay Regional Park Botanical Garden Tilden Park, presents regular tours, seven days a week. Week days 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays, and Sundays 2 p.m. Special tours by appointment. Call 841-8732. For a schedule of upcoming classes call 925-820-1021

Support

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill

See CALENDAR, Page C9

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Classified

Calendar

FROM PAGE C9

families to dance and laugh together. Drop in for good fun and exercise. All ages welcome. Drop-in class, no registration needed. Adults \$3, children \$2. Call 632-3713 for additional information.

■ **Swing Dance Classes!** Learn East coast swing and Lindy Hop with Michael and Persephone of Shagtime Dance Instruction, on Mondays at the Work Studio, 2566 Telegraph Ave. Beginning Lindy Hop runs 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. East Coast Swing from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and beginning Lindy Hop 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, at The Beat, 2560 Ninth St. Classes run as a monthly series. For more information, call Michael Marangio at 528-7858.

Classes

■ **Albany Adult School**, 601 San Gabriel Ave., begins its summer session the week of June 24. Free English classes are offered at this site. The Adult School sponsors classes at nearby Albany Senior Center. The classes include literature, painting, current events, music appreciation and a new course in wearable art. For more information, call 559-6580.

■ **Vista Community College** Summer 2002 registration is open now for sessions taking place June 17 through July 26. Touch-tone phone, Internet and in-person registration options are available. Apply now through June 22. For more information, call 981-2852.

■ **Albany Adult School** offers classes in Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Italian and Spanish this quarter. Most classes meet in the evening once a week for 10 weeks. A few are offered in the afternoon also. Meet at 601 San Gabriel Ave. in Albany, or across the street at the Albany Middle School. Average cost is \$48 plus books. Call the Adult School at 559-6580 for more information.

■ **Folkdance classes**, Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 53 Arlington Ave. (across from the Kensington Library). Simple and clear lessons for people of all levels. Emphasis is good music and fun. Cost: \$30 for 6-week session (prorated fees apply), \$8 for drop in session. For more information, call Mel Harte, at 848-5289 before 9 p.m.

■ **Vista Community College**, 2020 Milvia St., offers its new Sunrise College this spring with classes in accounting, e-commerce, business, Java programming, English, ESL, statistics and Spanish for business professionals. Classes start at 7 a.m. and end at 9

a.m. Call 981-2800 for more information.

■ **Assets Senior Employment** offers a job training program for income-eligible people 55 and older living in Oakland, Emeryville, Berkeley and Albany. Earn when you learn. Interested in working with children? You can receive college credit in Early Childhood Development while being paid. Class starts soon. Call 238-3554 for more information.

■ **The Albany YMCA** offers after school classes for elementary and middle school age children. The YMCA offers sports and dance programs, gymnastics and Hip Hop and enrichment programs such as cooking, sewing and art. Financial assistance always available. For more information, call 525-1130.

■ **Julia Morgan Center** for the Arts, 2640 College Ave., offers a family-friendly program of classes, workshops and activities taught by professional teaching artists, all aimed at bringing arts participation into people's everyday lives. Classes take place at the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts. For more information, including complete class descriptions, fees, and instructor bios, see www.juliamor

gan.org or call 845-8542 for a brochure.

■ **The Berkeley Adult School (BAS)** offers Adult Basic Education classes, High School Diploma Requirement classes, General Educational Development Preparation classes which can be utilized to earn a GED certificate, and Preparation for US Citizenship classes. The classes are free. BAS also offers, for an affordable fee, a variety of vocational classes and computer classes, ranging from introduction to Computers to Advanced Computer Applications. Call 644-6130 for additional information.

■ **The South Berkeley Senior Center**, 2939 Ellis St., offers a variety of classes. For additional information and class scheduling, call 883-5222.

■ **Interview Clinics** sponsored by Turning Point Center at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, are held on Monday mornings from 9-11 by appointment. 30-minute sessions are \$15 for YWCA members and \$20 for non-members. Call the Center at 848-6370 and leave a message to reserve an appointment time. Be sure to leave a name and telephone number.

■ **The Ecology Center**, 2530 San Pablo Ave., presents an introductory class


for the home fruit grower. Proper pruning increases the flavor and size of fruit, as well as preserves the health and longevity of the tree. There will also be a demonstration of pruning tools. Class taught by Greg Peck, owner of an organic landscape and garden design business. Cost is \$10

for nonmembers; \$7.50 for members. Call 548-2220 to reserve a space.

■ **A CopWatch** class takes place every Monday night from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 2022 Blake St. near Shattuck. Know your rights. The classes are free. Call 548-0425 for additional information.

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1479 Solano Avenue, Albany (510) 526-6223
Ising Tao is celebrating 23 years on Solano Avenue. This family owned business caters to its customer in every way. Serving Szechuan and Mandarin Cuisine and offering specialties such as Szechuan Beef, Princess Prawns, Dry Sautéed Prawns, Garlic Flavored Eggplant, Dry Cooked String Beans, and Glazed Walnut Prawns. Lunch specials served with soup and salad are offered between 11:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. If you miss lunch, enjoy the great cuisine and atmosphere for dinner. They are located in Albany at 1479 Solano Ave. (510) 526-6223. Reservation are welcome. \$\$ MC VS W

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Friday, June 28, 2002

Section D

Classic Classics: Owner finds his dream car — 1942 Ford woodie [D3]

DAVE VAN SICKLE
Down the Road

BMW driving school teaches real-world skills to teen-agers

Most safety experts agree that driver education in the U.S. is sorely lacking in quality. Classroom instruction is basic, often taught by instructors with minimal levels of experience.

Driver training is usually limited to driving around suburban areas at low speeds with an instructor. Real-world driving, even at the level of a driver's license, is seldom taught in the U.S. seldom have a clue how to: brake in a panic, both with and without anti-lock brakes, steer safely around potholes without losing control, detect and correct a skid, and properly use mirrors for lane changing advantage, even at the level of a driver's license.

Increasing teen fatalities and high insurance rates are proof the existing system is flawed. In European countries, driver training is much more serious, and training is both extensive and expensive, but European drivers are taught how to handle emergency situations, as well as the simple rules of the road.

Getting a driver's license is often a given right — it's an earned privilege. Considering how lacking driver training is in the U.S., what is a driver to do to make up for the shortfall? Perhaps BMW has

See ROAD, Page D2



2003 MERCURY Marauder is true muscle car with a firm ride and lots of power from a 302-horsepower V8. It also comes with an advanced personal safety system.

Mercury Marauder ready for a checkered flag

MOTOR MATTERS

Every time I entered into the 2003 Mercury Marauder an imaginary voice within me said, "Gentleman, start your engine." This rear-wheel drive muscle car itched to race.

Unfortunately, my driving was restricted to city streets and highways, a situation which required me to demonstrate the highest degree of self-control.

Nevertheless, there were a couple of times I gave in to temptation and pressed on the accelerator pedal just to hear the rumble com-

ing from dual exhaust pipes.

The 302-horsepower V8 engine produced the ominous sound. Yet at normal speeds, the exhaust sound could hardly be heard.

This engine is designed for a sedan, which was my test-drive vehicle. However, a convertible model has a supercharged V8 engine that produces a remarkable 335-horsepower.

The torque on the sedan is 318 pound-feet compared to 355 pound-feet on the convertible. Both are hot numbers!

I'm told the engine breathes

TOM KEANE

Keane on Wheels

through a low-restriction air intake and aluminum upper and lower intake manifolds and the compression ratio is 10.1:1.

The fuel economy isn't all that great, but considering the power, 17 miles per gallon city and 23 mpg highway isn't too bad.

The all-new Marauder has rock-solid frame construction that allows

all the components of the suspension to work at their best. It also reduces the noise, vibration and harshness.

Yet the ride is firm, perhaps too firm for a \$35,000 full-size sedan.

Where the new Marauder excels is in its handling. Steering is firm and there's very little body-roll in hard turns.

The engineers explained that the combination of air springs and monotube dampers helps keep the car's four tires planted firmly on the road surface.

That's a pretty sizeable task as

this car has 18-inch tires.

The tires are so big that the spare tire takes up most of the upper shelf in the trunk. Although the tire placement frees up the space under the floor for additional storage (an optional trunk organizer), the overall storage capacity is limited.

However, the interior is huge and seats five passengers in comfort.

The interior has a distinct appearance with black leather seats

See KEANE, Page D2

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Chevrolet aiming to move in on Ford police vehicles

BY HERB SHULDINER
MOTOR MATTERS

About 200 police officers from Missouri, Kansas and northern Texas recently descended on the Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Mo.

They weren't involved in some major crime fighting operation, but came to stage a face-off between the police versions of the Chevrolet Impala and the Ford Crown Victoria, the two models that have virtually all of the cop car business.

Chevrolet sponsored the event that it hopes will help carve out a significant share of the 70,000 units sold annually to police departments around the country. The police officials tested the Impalas for acceleration and handling.

Wailing sirens and flashing lights of police cars get our attention fast, especially when we spot one in our rearview mirror when cruising above the speed limit.

But carmakers are more enthusiastic about police cars. They have developed the police car business as a lucrative part of their fleet sales operations and manufacturers are fighting to dominate this sales sector.

Ford has dominated the segment in recent years with its Crown Victoria model that many police departments select because of its durability and rear-wheel handling capabilities. In fact, some police departments are prohibited from buying anything but rear-drive models by statute.

However, Chevrolet is challenging the Crown Vic with its front-drive Impala.

Don't be surprised to soon see a Dodge Intrepid with a light bar in your rearview mirror. Chrysler used to be a major player in the police car business back in the 1970s and early 1980s, but then dropped out of the business.

Now Dodge is introducing a 2002 police version of the Intrepid, another front-

drive car. "We'd love to sell 10,000 a year," a Dodge spokesman says.

Dodge cruiser is adapted from its R/T model, which has a 242-horsepower engine, heavy-duty suspension and heavy-duty four-wheel disc brakes with ABS. It also has a hefty 160-amp alternator to power the electronics in the vehicle.

Chevrolet's Bruce Wiley says that the company sold 13,000 Impalas to police departments last year and hopes to increase that number to 15,000 to 20,000 units annually in the next few years. That's still far short of the 58,000 Crown Vic police cars sold annually, but Wiley thinks the Impala can increase its sales because of some inherent advantages.

Price is a leading consideration. The police version of the Impala is about \$2,500 less expensive than the Crown Vic when you include ABS and a power seat in the car, Wiley claims.

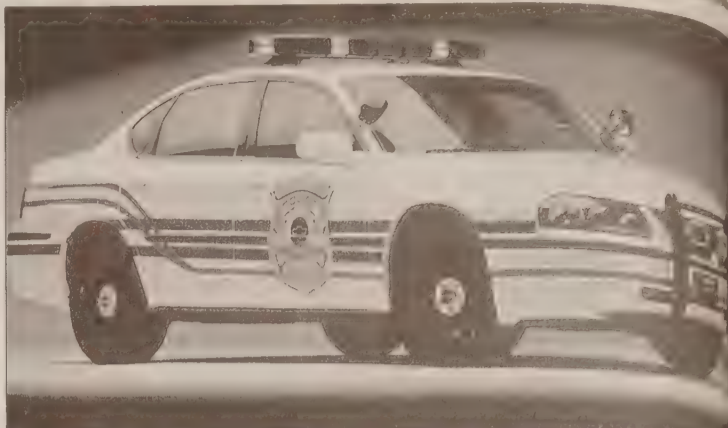
He also says that the Impala averages 9-15 miles per gallon better in fuel economy. That's a significant consideration for budget-constrained police departments whose cars frequently travel over 30,000 miles per year in round-the-clock use.

Wiley says that the Impala also has a superior Bosch-made alternator that can produce 96 amps while idling.

This is an important matter for police who sometimes leave their cars idling for four to six hours while they are investigating a crime scene or accident on a highway.

Some cars suffer battery rundown when left in this condition. Bosch alternators prevents this, Wiley says.

Kevin Fitzgerald, a Ford fleet sales manager to state and other government agencies, says the Crown Victoria is the preferred police car because of its rear-drive handling advantages. He says Ford concurs with a 17-member police advisory



CHEVROLET CHALLENGES Ford's domination of the police car market with this police-ouffitted version of the Impala.

board to create a police car that has superior handling, steering, suspension and durability.

The Crown Vic police car also has a strengthened frame, along with better braking, wiring and cooling systems. So the vehicle is not identical with the conventional consumer model.

The police Impala also has some features that are not available to ordinary consumers. Those superior features include a special brake system, albeit a noisier one. "Cops are more willing to put up with noisier brakes," Wiley says.

The engine cradle in the Impala cop car is beefed up by using a high strength alloy metal. Like the Crown Vic, the Impala is designed with wheels that can resist damage caused by frequent bumping into curbs.

Both the Crown Victoria and the Impala offer excellent passive safety features. However, the Impala does not offer a side-impact airbag for a front seat passenger.

The Crown Vic has dual front side

airbags built into the seat backs.

Police cars have short lives. Most departments use their cars for only three years.

A large percentage of used police cars

wind up as taxi cabs because they require many of the same features, including braking and idling.

However, some police departments in big

city fleets are also sold to

Low oil pressure is unacceptable, dangerous

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Q I own a 1996 Jeep Grand Cherokee six-cylinder with an automatic transmission.

When the engine gets hot (normal 210 degrees) and I slow to a stop (with idle speed at about 600 to 750 rpm), the oil pressure drops to 0 to 5 PSI.

Normal oil pressure is about 40 PSI. The manual states that between 35 and 75 is normal.

In the winter when the temperature is colder, I do not get the same problem.

I recently had the 60,000-mile maintenance completed at a local dealership. They could not replicate my oil pressure problem, thus they took no action.

Would you suspect the oil pump, oil pump filter, or the sender?

If it might be the sender, can you tell me where to look for that on my engine, as the manual has no picture showing the location?

D.J. Greene
Bellevue, Wash.

BRAD BERGHOLDT
Auto QnA

A Proper oil pressure is extremely important to your engine's health, and 0 to 5 PSI is a grossly unacceptable reading.

My service literature shows an idle oil pressure specification of 13 PSI, and above 1600 rpm between 37 to 75 PSI.

Oil pressure increases with engine speed and decreases with temperature as the oil thins. I wouldn't be alarmed to see the pressure drop into the low teens when the engine is at idle and hot.

Whenever there's doubt about an oil pressure gauge's reading, a mechanical gauge (Chrysler/Jeep C-3292 or equivalent) should be temporarily installed in place of the oil pressure sending unit, and a reading taken.

The sending unit threads into the right side/center of the 4.0-liter engine's cylinder block, just

above the oil filter.

If the pressure is in fact too low, the cause can be a faulty oil pump or excessive cam or crankshaft bearing clearance. With the low mileage on the engine and the acceptable high rpm readings, it's unlikely the pickup screen is restricted.

Your Jeep uses a rather sophisticated system to read and display oil pressure.

The oil pressure sending unit reports to the powertrain control module (engine computer), which posts the information on the CCD bus — a communication network.

This information is received by the instrument cluster microprocessor, which orders up the gauge reading. The body control module also receives the data and commands, if necessary, a warning light and chime.

A quick check of the Jeep's oil pressure gauge circuit can be made by unplugging the sending unit wiring connector (key on, engine off).

The gauge should swing to the maximum reading.

The connector terminals are then momentarily bridged (with a paper clip), which should send the gauge needle to zero.

If the gauge responds properly to these maneuvers, and the mechanical gauge readings were OK, I'd go shopping for a sending unit.

Service bulletin 08-07-96 implies there have been some problems with this part.

NOTE: My apologies if I haven't responded to your automotive inquiry. I read every message, but time and resources don't allow me to answer more than a portion of them. Many times a problem is simply too difficult to answer based on the information provided, or requires first-hand inspection.

Brad Bergholdt teaches automotive technology at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. E-mail him at BBergholdt@Juno.com or write to him in care of Drive, Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, Calif. 95190. He cannot make personal replies.

Road

FROM PAGE D1

at least a partial answer to the problem — and a way to help parents sleep at night.

BMW is setting its sights on driver education with courses designed for teens who have relatively little experience behind the wheel of any vehicle.

Two programs, a one-day course and a two-day camp, teach young people car control techniques that they may not have learned elsewhere. This accomplishes two things, providing reassurance for parents while letting teens fulfill a dream of driving a premium car on a world-class training track.

Both programs are taught throughout the summer at the BMW Performance Center Driving School in Spartanburg, S.C.

According to Tom Strahs, BMW Performance Center manager, "The driving school is the ideal graduation gift, one that provides a lifetime of safe driving skills."

These teen courses are designed especially for inexperienced licensed drivers ages 15 through 19.

BMW's programs help new drivers build confidence by providing them with guidance and training to cope with everyday traffic situations, perform complex maneuvers, and respond to real-life driving emergencies, according to Strahs.

BMW's Performance Center has a road course that can be configured 35 different ways, using special features not found in most driver training programs.

For example, students learn how to control a skidding vehicle on black ice or other slippery surfaces in exercises performed on an ultra-smooth concrete skid pad.

Accident avoidance maneuvers are taught on a waterwall corridor, where "walls" of water suddenly appear in front of moving vehicles. The waterwalls are created by water jets hidden in the pavement. These jets are turned on and off by instructors to create real, but damage-proof, obstacles.

In the "New Driver" programs, students are taught the relationship between speed and stopping distances, proper seating position and how it relates to better driving, as well as active and passive safety systems: what they can and can't do to help.

Often overlooked basics, such as how

to set mirrors and where to look when driving to allow time for the unpredictable, are also covered.

I watched a class all day on a Saturday in May, and the results were impressive. In the morning, the students were what you might expect: afraid to steer quickly or step down too hard on the brakes. They ran over the orange cones that mark the course and drove through (harmless) obstacles.

By the end of the day, confidence began to show. They were weaving around obstacles and using the brakes to full advantage. That's all because they had experienced, firsthand, what worked and what didn't in safe and secure surroundings.

Sessions are limited to 12 students, with both classroom theory and hands-on experience using BMW 3 Series coupes and sedans. The cost is \$300 for the one-day session and \$1,950 for the two-day camp.

Students must be at least 16 years old and must have at least a learner's permit if not a license.

For a great graduation present and a bit of peace-of-mind, parents can get more information by calling 888-345-4BMW, ext. 4269.

Keane

FROM PAGE D1

sewn with French seam stitching that the designers say stems back to vintage Marauders.

For another sporty touch, there are two voltage and oil pressure gauges near the shifter.

A rendition of Mercury's godhead is embossed into the seat backs.

These seats have firm thigh, lumbar and shoulder support and I had no difficulty finding a comfortable position using the power control on the door panel.

The Marauder has a brake pedal adjustment to accommodate the length of drivers' legs.

This feature would be desirable to have on all cars as it can reduce in milliseconds the time required to "hit the brakes" in an emergency.

The engineers boast that the personal safety system on this car is one of the most comprehensive restraint systems available

for both the driver and front-seat passenger.

It includes dual-stage front airbags, safety-belt pretensioners and load-limiting retractors.

The use of black gives the Marauder a distinctive appearance.

The exterior is painted in a glossy black; the entire interior — seats, dash panel, door

panels — is finished in a dull black.

This car is equipped with a 140-watt Alpine AM/FM/CD and cassette player. (The six-CD changer is optional.) Along with the controls on the audio system, additional controls are on the steering wheel.

Although this powerful car handled like a dream, it is frustrating if there is no place to utilize its full capabilities.

2003 MERCURY MARAUDER

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger, four-door rear-wheel drive large car
Suggested Retail	\$34,495
Price as Tested	\$34,695
Engine Type	DOHC 32-valve, 4.6-liter V8 w/SEFI
Horsepower	302 at 5,750 rpm
Torque	318 at 4,300 rpm
Transmission	Four-speed automatic
Wheelbase	115 inches
Tread	(F/R) 63/65 inches
Curb Weight	4,165 pounds
Fuel Capacity	19 gallons
Mileage	City/highway 17/23
Strong Feature	Power
Weak Feature	Truck space

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SUV owners invited to upcoming Henness Pass road trip

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF 4WD CLUBS
MARYSVILLE — Sport-utility vehicle owners anxious to try their vehicles off the highway and learn more about the history of the Mother Lode, might want to consider participating in the Sacramento Jeep annual Henness Pass road trip starting 3-4 beginning in Marysville, Calif., and ending in Virginia City, Nev.

ras with some mild four-wheeling and learning some interesting facts about California's gold rush history," said Warner Anderson of Auburn, narrator and trail boss for the trip. "This trip is particularly well-suited for families as we will not only explore this forgotten road with its breathtaking scenery, but we will also visit weathered ghost towns, old mine ruins and abandoned camps," said Anderson.

Cost for the Henness Pass Road trip is \$140 per adult, \$50 for children 7 through 14 years of age and children younger than 7 are wel-

come free of charge. The cost includes all meals, one T-shirt and one dash plaque per adult and one T-shirt for children ages 7 to 14.

There are a limited number of vehicles that may attend, so registration is on a first-come, first-served basis.

A CB radio is required for the narrated portion of tour stops and any emergencies. Participants not owning a CB radio, may request a loaner in advance.

For more information on this year's Henness Pass road trip or to request a registration application

contact Karen Totsky Bohmer at 916-630-7672 or e-mail ktotsky@yahoo.com or T.R. Bergen at 916-813-0606 or e-mail fishinfo3@aol.com.

36th annual Sierra Trek
CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF 4WD CLUBS
SACRAMENTO — Due to the growing popularity of sport-utility vehicle trips in the back country of the high Sierra, the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs has announced that it will add a new SUV trip during its 36th annual Sierra Trek event, scheduled Aug. 8-11 near Truckee.

According to Jim Bramham, trail boss and narrator for the SUV trips, the association will offer a new Lake Tahoe area trip on Thursday, Aug. 8 and also conduct its traditional Meadow Lake area SUV tour on Saturday, Aug. 10.

"We have learned from participants from earlier years that many of them would like more than one SUV trip during their visit to Sierra Trek," said Bramham.

Sierra Trek is the largest all-volunteer four-wheel event in the country requiring approximately 500 volunteers to take care of all the needs for 1,500 participants from throughout the world.

Cost for either of the SUV trips

is \$105 for adults, \$30 for children 7 to 12 years of age; children younger than 7 are welcome free of charge. Both trips include a continental breakfast, trail lunch, dinner at the base camp, a dash plaque, as well as camping at Meadow Lake.

For participants on the Thursday SUV run choosing to remain for the Saturday SUV trip, the cost will be \$135 for adults, \$30 for children ages 7 to 12 and children younger than 7 are free. This four-day package includes all meals from Thursday breakfast through Sunday breakfast.

For additional information call Bramham at 916-424-5800 or e-mail jstrucking@earthlink

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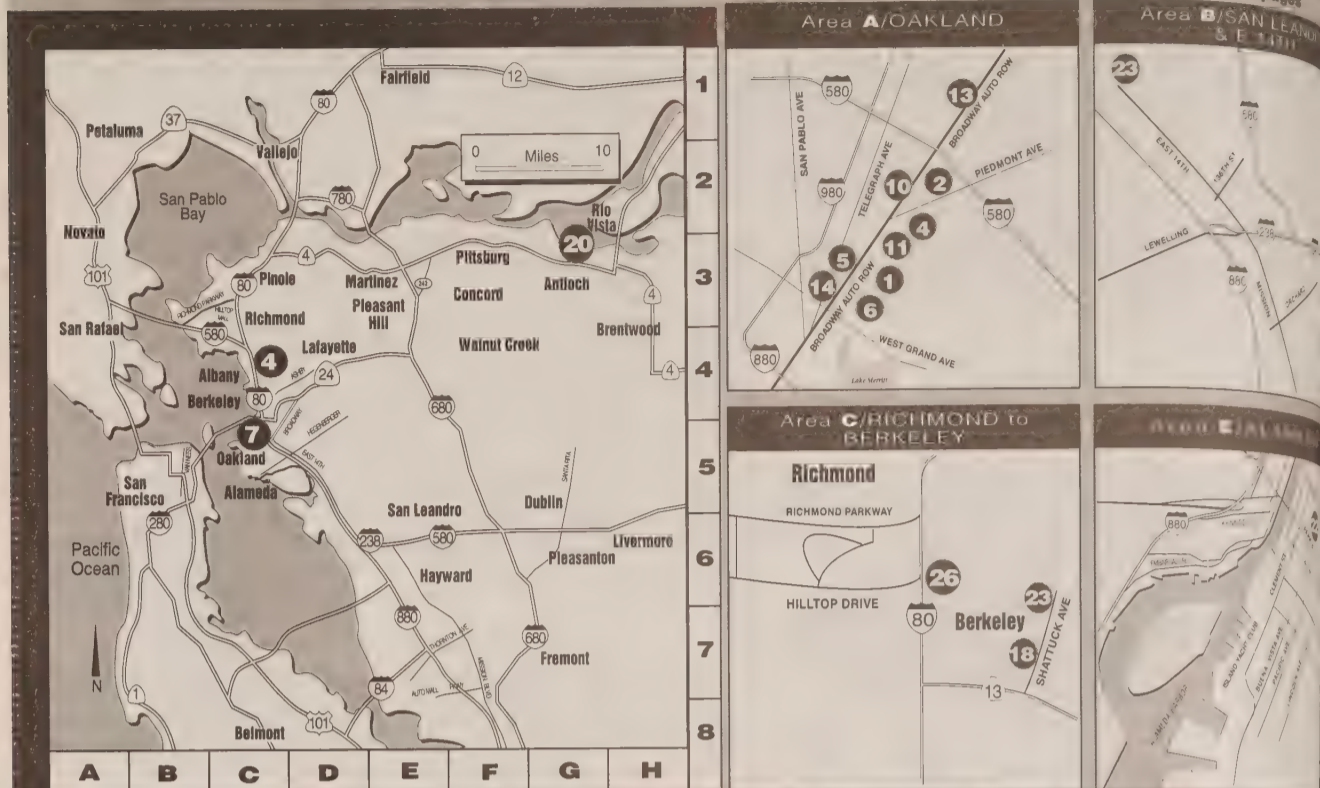
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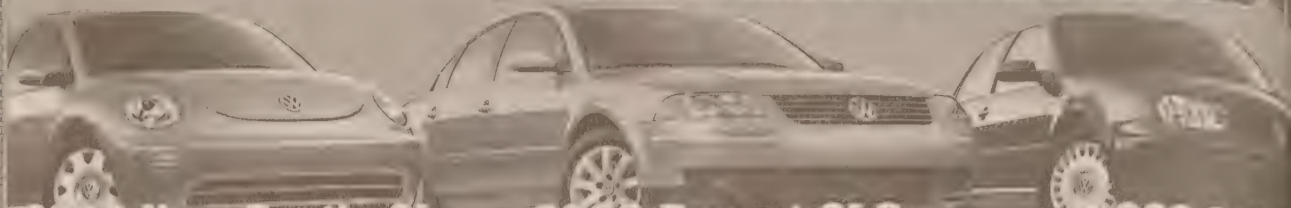
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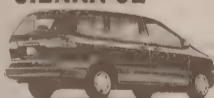
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Friday, June 28, 2002

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Dim sum simply done: 'Little snacks' spell big fun for Chinese food lovers

BY JOE STUMPE

If you won't find dim sum on the menu of many Chinese restaurants, dim sum ("little snack") is another tradition of Chinese cuisine — a leisurely repast at which a half-dozen or more of these snacks might be sampled alongside a pot of hot tea.

A restaurant featuring dim sum typically wheels a big cart around the dining room, lifting out tiny silver dishes for customers to look at their options — sticky dumplings stuffed with pork or pork to more exotic offerings such as stewed chicken feet. Some of these are complex creations, such as dumplings no bigger than a pingpong ball that contain distinct fillings.

Others are well within the capabilities of home cooks and can be made with ingredients available at most supermarkets. All that's required are a couple of techniques and ingredients that may not be familiar.

Steaming is a favorite Chinese cooking technique, if less well known than stir-frying. Steamers made of bamboo are for sale at Asian markets; they're placed over a wok in which water has been brought to a boil. The metal version that American cooks mostly use for cooking vegetables works as well.

You can even rig up a make-shift steamer with a colander and a pot of water. The colander should be suspended over the water in the pot. When the water is boiling, cover the colander with a lid.

Whatever contraption you use, the food in the steamer on a piece of wax paper or aluminum foil to reduce sticking. Be careful — steam may look like a lot of fun, but it's a lot hotter.

Dim sum skins are flat, rectangular and often sold in the

produce section of a supermarket. They're inexpensive and used to make a variety of dumplings.

To seal in fillings, simply dip the tip of your finger in water and moisten the edges of the won ton skin. The filled won tons can be folded into various shapes before being deep-fried, steamed or boiled in soup (they're also a great shortcut in making certain non-Chinese dishes such as ravioli).

After opening, wrap won ton packages in a moist paper towel and refrigerate to keep from drying out.

Other ingredients called for in the accompanying recipes, including hoisin sauce, plum sauce, sesame oil and Chinese mushrooms, are available in the Asian aisle of many supermarkets.

Helene Siegel's introduction to her slim 1992 volume, "Chinese Cooking for Beginners," came in handy when I was testing dim sum recipes. As Siegel noted, texture is second only to flavor in importance in Chinese cooking; ingredients such as water chestnuts and bamboo shoots are there primarily to provide crunch rather than taste, while mushrooms and tofu produce another kind of "mouth feel."

This is valuable information for those of us who occasionally forget something on our shopping lists; I substituted julienned carrots for bamboo shoots in one recipe and canned mushrooms for the dried version in another, both with good results.

To create your own dim sum dining experience, you might prepare several of these recipes up to the point of cooking, then enjoy them one by one with your guests, eating one dish as the next one steams. Place soy sauce, chili oil, mustard and plum sauce on the table in dipping bowls.

SHRIMP SHAU MAI

1/2 lb. raw shelled shrimp
1/2 tablespoon each: cooking

wine, sesame oil
2 teaspoons cornstarch
1 teaspoon sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup chopped water chestnuts
3 tablespoons chopped cilantro
24 won ton skins
24 raw shelled medium shrimp, with tail intact

To make filling: chop 1/2 lb. shrimp coarsely, then mix it with the cooking wine, sesame oil, cornstarch, sugar, salt and pepper. Add the water chestnuts and cilantro to mixture. Put a portion of the filling on a won ton skin. Place a whole shrimp on top of the filling. Using your finger, moisten the edges of the won ton skin with water and wrap it around the filling, letting the tail stick out. Place the finished shau mai in a steamer about 1/2 inch apart and steam for 8 minutes over high heat. Remove and serve.

Makes 24 servings.
Source: "Chinese Snacks" by Huang Su-Huei (Wei-Chuan Publishing).

SPICY BARBECUED CHICKEN WINGS

4 lbs. chicken wings
Marinade:
1 cup hoisin sauce
1/3 cup plum sauce
1/4 cup soy sauce
1/4 cup dry sherry
1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
1/2 cup orange juice
2 tablespoons honey
4 garlic cloves, peeled and chopped
1-inch length peeled ginger, grated
1 teaspoon black pepper

Wash the chicken and pat dry. Combine all the marinade ingredients in a bowl. Add the chicken wings and toss to coat evenly with marinade. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate at least 8 hours, or as long as a day. Remove from re-



FERNANDO SALAZAR

DIM SUM — "LITTLE SNACKS" — a leisurely repast at which a half-dozen or more of these appetizers might be sampled alongside a pot of hot tea.

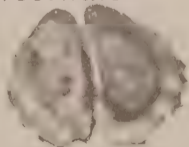
See DIM SUM. Page 2

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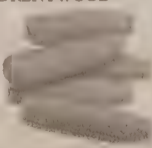


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Dim Sum

FROM PAGE 1

frigerator an hour before cooking. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a roasting pan with aluminum foil for easier cleanup and coat a rack with peanut oil. Lift the chicken out of the marinade, wiping off excess, and arrange on the rack. Reserve the marinade. Roast, uncovered, 1/2 hour on each side. Baste with the marinade at 15-minute intervals. After removing from the oven, turn on the broiler. When the broiler is hot, place the wings under broiler for 2 minutes on each side, just to crisp. Serve hot or at room temperature.

Makes 8 servings.

Source: "Chinese Cooking for Beginners" by Helene Siegel (HarperCollins).

ALMOND COOKIES

1 1/2 cups butter or shortening
1 cup powdered sugar
1 tablespoon water
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 egg
3 drops almond extract
2 cups flour
1/2 cup almond slices
20 whole almonds

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat the butter or shortening for 1 minute; add the sugar in thirds and beat for 1 minute after each addition. Add water, baking powder, baking soda, egg and almond extract; mix for 2 minutes. Add almond slices and flour; mix to form dough. Roll the dough into a long baton-like roll, then divide into 20 balls. Flatten each piece of dough with the palm of hand. Grease a cookie sheet. Place the flattened dough 2 inches apart. Place a whole almond in the center of each cookie and press lightly. Bake for 15 minutes or until the cookies are golden.

Makes 20 servings.

Source: "Chinese Snacks" by Huang Su-Huei (Wei-Chuan Publishing).

PORK SHAU MAI

3/4 lb. pork loin
4 Chinese-style mushrooms (rehydrated if using dried mushrooms), chopped
1/2 cup chopped bamboo shoot
1 1/2 tablespoons cornstarch
1 tablespoon cooking wine
1/2 tablespoon sesame oil
1 teaspoon sugar
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
24 won ton skins
24 frozen green peas, thawed

To make the filling: Dice the pork and combine with the mushrooms and bamboo shoot. Add cornstarch, cooking wine, sesame oil, sugar, salt and pepper; mix well. Trim the won ton skins to make them round. Place a portion of the filling in the center of a won ton skin; gather edges together to make a waist, crimping the edges at several points. Place a green pea in the center of the filling and press down lightly. Place finished shau mai in a steamer about 1/2 inch apart. Steam for 6 to 8 minutes over high heat. Remove and serve.

Makes 24 servings.

This open-faced dumpling is given a spot of color by placing a green pea on the filling.

Source: "Chinese Snacks" by Huang Su-Huei (Wei-Chuan Publishing).

ONION CREPES

1 1/4 cups flour
3/4 cup boiling water
1/2 egg or 1/4 cup cold water
1/2 tablespoon shortening, melted
1 tablespoon chopped green onion
1/2 teaspoon salt
4 tablespoons vegetable oil, for

So go to this Web site, type "summer food safety" in the search box in the upper left-hand corner and let 'er rip.

Tips include keeping raw meats, seafood and eggs separate from ready-to-eat foods. You don't want juices from the uncooked leaking on the other.

Carefully and thoroughly wash plates, utensils and cutting boards that have touched raw meat or poultry before using them again for other foods.

Wash your hands and cooking surfaces frequently. Pack moist towels

frying

Place flour in a bowl; add boiling water and mix. Add egg or cold water; mix again until smooth. Set aside for 20 minutes. Remove the dough and knead on a lightly oiled surface until smooth and elastic. Roll the dough to form a long roll and cut into 6 pieces. Use a rolling pin to roll out each piece of dough into a 4-inch round piece. Brush pieces with shortening, then sprinkle with green onion and salt. Fold two sides of each round piece to the center, slightly overlapping them. Lightly flatten pieces and roll over jelly-roll style to form the shape of a snail. Turn the rolls on their sides and flatten to round shapes. Heat the oil in a pan and fry the crepes until both sides are golden. Remove and serve.

Makes 6 servings.

Source: "Chinese Snacks" by Huang Su-Huei (Wei-Chuan Publishing).

STEAMED BARBECUE BUNS

1 pkg. refrigerated dinner roll dough (8 count)
1 cup of barbecued pork, beef or chicken, chopped and mixed with barbecue sauce

Place a roll on a lightly floured surface and flatten into a circle (about 5-inch diameter) with your hand or a rolling pin. Place 1 to 2 tablespoons of barbecue in the center and bring edges of dough together to form a ball. Crimp the edges at the top and fasten with two toothpicks. Repeat with remaining dough and barbecue. Place the buns in a steamer and steam for 10 to 12 minutes (do not worry if the bun comes apart slightly at the top). Remove the toothpicks and serve.

Makes 8 servings.

This is a convenient version of a classic dim sum dish. A sweet barbecue sauce works best in this recipe.

etlettes and paper towels to use on picnics.

Grilled meat and poultry brown quickly on the outside, but remain pink or even red in the middle. If you get a half-cooked burger, throw it back on the fire. Don't put it on the bun until it has reached 160 degrees on an instant thermometer.

Always pack your instant thermometer when you grill out. Cook hot dogs to 165 degrees, chicken breasts to 170 and T-bone steaks to 145 degrees.

Yes, real men wield meat thermometers.

Potato Salad: Crowd-pleasing recipe

NAPS

It's satisfying and it can be served in many different ways. Those are two features that have made the potato a favorite vegetable. The super spud is a crowd pleaser whether it's served warm or cold, so many families have collected a variety of potato recipes. Here's two to add to the list of warm weather potato favorites — Vegetable Potato Salad and Grilled Potato Salad. Both these warm weather salads are mouth-wateringly delicious — a savory variation on a favorite comfort food. Both recipes have been taste-tested at The Lipton Kitchens.

VEGETABLE POTATO SALAD

1 envelope Lipton Recipe Secrets Vegetable Soup Mix
1 cup Hellmann's or Best Food's Real Mayonnaise
2 teaspoons white vinegar
2 pounds small red or all-purpose potatoes, cooked and cut into chunks
1/4 cup red onion, finely chopped (optional)
1. In large bowl, combine soup mix, mayonnaise and vinegar.
2. Add potatoes and onion; toss well. Chill 2 hours.

Makes 6 servings. Prep time: 20 minutes.

GRILLED POTATO SALAD

1 envelope Lipton Recipe Secrets Onion Soup Mix
1/3 cup Bertolli Olive Oil
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
1 clove garlic, finely chopped or 1/2 teaspoon Lawry's Garlic Powder with Parsley
2 pounds small red or all-purpose potatoes, cut into 1-inch cubes
1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil or 1 teaspoon dried basil leaves, crushed freshly ground black pepper
1. In large bowl, blend soup mix, oil, vinegar and garlic; stir in potatoes.
2. Grease a 30 x 18-inch sheet of heavy-duty aluminum foil; top with potato mixture. Wrap foil loosely around mixture, sealing edges airtight with double fold. Place on another sheet of 30 x 18-inch foil; seal edges airtight with double fold in opposite direction.
3. Grill, shaking package occasionally and turning package once, 40 minutes, or until potatoes are tender. Spoon into serving bowl and toss with basil and

pepper. Serve at room temperature. To prepare oven-baked, preheat oven to 450 degrees. Place potatoes as above in cooking pan on center rack, turning package once or until potatoes are tender and serve as usual. Also terrific with Golden Crust. Makes a serving. 10 minutes. For more recipes, visit www.recipe.com

THE SECRET to this pleasing potato salad is the secret anise. It's a soup mix.

Dessert with an old-fashioned touch

NAPS

"Just like Grandma used to make." For many people, that sentiment epitomizes the notion of comfort food—dishes and desserts that bring back memories and flavors of favorite childhood meals.

Now there's a recipe collection that keeps such cherished family traditions alive. Each recipe from "Grandma's Kitchen: Treasured Family Recipes" is brought up to date, so it can be made with less time and less work, and is printed on an attractive card in an easy-to-follow format. In addition, the recipes, along with handy kitchen hints, can be found on the Web at www.cookingvillage.com.

This recipe for Milk Chocolate Cake is a delectably decadent selection for the season—a rich ending for barbecues, pool parties and other summer gatherings. The frosting is made with real chocolate bars, so you're likely to have a lineup of

people wanting to lick the bowl

MILK CHOCOLATE CAKE

13/4 cups granulated sugar
1 1/2 cups (3 sticks) butter, softened, divided
3 large eggs, divided
4 squares (1 oz. each) milk chocolate, melted
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
13/4 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 cup buttermilk
1 package (16 oz.) confectioners' sugar
4 milk chocolate bars (1.55 oz. each), melted
3 tablespoons whipping cream
1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour two 9x9-inch baking pans.
2. Combine granulated sugar and 1 cup butter in a large bowl. Beat with an electric mixer until creamy.

3. Separate eggs. Whites. Add egg whites to mixture and mix well. Add chocolate and 1/2 cup butter. 4. Sift together flour, baking soda and salt. Add flour mixture alternately with egg mixture, beating well. 5. Beat egg whites in bowl until stiff peaks form. Fold into batter. Spoon mixture into greased pans. Bake until a toothpick inserted in centers of cakes comes out clean, about 25 minutes. Transfer layers to wire racks. 6. Beat confectioners' remaining butter in bowl. Whip 3 minutes. Stir in whipping cream and vanilla. Spread between layers and over top. Serves 12. Preparation time: 25 to 30 minutes. For more great recipes, visit www.cookingvillage.com

Good food safety site

BY CONNIE BLOOM

KNIGHT-RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Site: Center for Science in the Public Interest at www.cspinet.org. It's that time of year when a review of summertime food safety tips will do no harm.

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Kids and veggies: How to get your kids to ask for more

NAPSI

Recipes that generate interest among parents often feature kid-appealing ways to serve nutritious vegetables.

Whether it's meat loaf laced with carrots or chili made with extra pepper and onions, parents appreciate the idea of their children asking for a second serving of any dish with vegetables-especially if the recipe can be prepared quickly.

Here are two quick-fix recipes that may win fans among parents and children. One is a quick and easy, hearty fried rice and the other is a nutritious broccoli dish that has its extra dash of flavor from Onion Soup Mix.

HEAVY SKILLET BROCCOLI

1 Tbsp. Bertolli Olive Oil
8 cups fresh broccoli florets or green beans, trimmed
1-1/2 cups water

1 envelope Lipton Recipe Secrets Onion Soup Mix

1. In 12-inch skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat and cook broccoli, stirring occasionally, 2 minutes.

2. Stir in soup mix blended with water; bring to a boil.

3. Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer covered, 6 minutes or until broccoli is tender.

Also terrific with Lipton Recipe Secrets Golden Onion Soup Mix.

Prep time: 5 minutes.
Cook time: 10 minutes.
Makes 4 servings.

EASY FRIED RICE

1/4 cup Bertolli Olive Oil
4 cups cooked rice
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1 envelope Lipton Recipe Secrets Onion Soup Mix
1/2 cup water
1 Tbsp. soy sauce
1 cup frozen peas and carrots,

partially thawed

2 eggs, slightly beaten

1. In 12-inch nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat and cook rice and garlic, stirring constantly, 2 minutes or until rice is heated through.

2. Stir in soup mix blended with water and soy sauce and cook 1 minute.

3. Stir in peas and carrots and cook 2 minutes or until heated through.

4. Make a well in center of rice and quickly stir in eggs until set.

Stir eggs into rice and cook until done.

Prep time: 10 minutes.
Cook time: 10 minutes.
Makes 4 servings.

Also terrific with Lipton Recipe Secrets Onion Mushroom Soup Mix.

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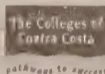
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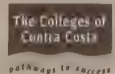
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Heather is a young mom who knew what she wanted – a career in nursing. She also knew that the best place to get started was a community college, with flexible scheduling, small classes, and the most affordable price – just \$11 a unit. Fall semester starts August 19.



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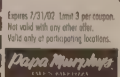
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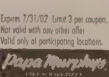
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Quick and easy summer meals

BY J.M. HIRSCH
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER
CONCORD, N.H. — A great summer meal is one that gets you out of the kitchen, or at least minimizes time in it.

In warm weather, the ideal meal is quick to make, simple to throw together, and relies on a short list of ingredients that either pack plenty of flavor or carry it well.

Start with quick to make. Aim for recipes that take less than 30 minutes. Pasta salad is a good exam-

ple. While the pasta boils (8 to 10 minutes), prepare a variety of diced vegetables, such as crisp red bell pepper, carrots and cherry tomatoes. When the pasta is done, drain but don't rinse it. Return it to the pot and add frozen corn kernels (roughly 1/3 the volume of the pasta). Toss, cover and let sit for 5 minutes.

After 5 minutes, the pasta will be at room temperature and the vegetables are now thawed. Add dressing and your favorite herbs.

Simple to throw together means that easy assembly, it also requires cleanup time, and can sometimes allow you the freedom to take a meal out, to assemble on the

Sandwich picnics are great for those who require little preparation, offer maximum versatility because diners can design their own sandwiches.

For an easy picnic, fill plastic containers with a variety of sandwich fixings such as tomato and avocado, shredded lettuce, cheese (soy curries), and slices of marinated tofu. Add a jar of roasted red peppers, a squeeze bottle of Dijon mustard, and a loaf of bread and you're in easy outdoor meal.

Finally, keep the list of ingredients simple — which doesn't mean sacrifice flavor. The trick is to choose items with a balance of ingredients that supply flavor.

The subtle flavor of potatoes, for example, makes them great carriers

for more strongly flavored items such as fresh dill and rosemary. Likewise, pasta is a great carrier for sundried tomatoes marinated in olive oil.

These principles are demonstrated in many of the vegetable and pasta recipes in Clarissa Hyman's "Cucina Siciliana" (Interlink, 2002, \$26.95), the cookbook in which she explores the many rustic dishes of Sicily.

Her recipe for sauteed rosemary potatoes with cherry tomatoes and black olives produces an easy-to-prepare dish with great balance that is good warm or at room temperature.

SAUTEED ROSEMARY POTATOES WITH CHERRY TOMATOES AND BLACK OLIVES
8 medium red-skinned potatoes
2 to 3 tablespoons olive oil
2 to 3 tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary
4 large cloves garlic, peeled
Pinch of salt
Peperoncino or freshly ground black pepper
12 cherry tomatoes
12 black olives
Fresh parsley, chopped
Peel the potatoes and cut into 1/2-inch chunks. Parboil them for 10 minutes, then drain and blot to absorb excess moisture.

Heat the olive oil in a medium skillet over a medium flame. Add the potatoes, rosemary, garlic, salt and "a lot of peperoncino or black pepper, as much as you can take." Toss the potatoes in the pan to coat with oil and herbs, then cook for 10 to 15 minutes, or crisp and brown. Stir occasionally to prevent from sticking.

During the last few minutes of browning, add the tomatoes and olives and mix gently. Remove from the heat when tomato skins begin to wrinkle or brown. Top with parsley and serve immediately or when cool. Preparation 35 minutes. Makes 4 servings.

Recipe for sauteed rosemary potatoes with cherry tomatoes and black olives is from Clarissa Hyman's "Cucina Siciliana," Interlink, 2002, \$26.95.

CAULIFLOWER-GREEN BEAN SALAD WITH ARAME
1 cup dried arame (about 1 ounce)
3 tablespoons ume (plum) vinegar or red wine vinegar
4 1/2 cups cooked cauliflower, cut into bite-sized pieces and chilled
2 1/2 cups cooked green beans,

chilled
Salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
2 teaspoons toasted sesame-seed oil
1 teaspoon spicy sesame oil
1 large garlic clove, minced
1 tablespoon tahini (sesame-seed paste)
1 tablespoon water
2 tablespoons minced scallions, whites only
Place the arame in a small bowl and cover with warm water. Allow the arame to soak for 10 minutes. When tender, drain and rinse in a mesh strainer, then transfer to saucepan.

Add enough water to the pan to cover the arame. Add 1 tablespoon of the vinegar and simmer over a medium flame for 15 minutes. Add more water as needed to prevent drying. Drain and cool to room temperature.

To make the dressing, heat both sesame oils in a small skillet over a

medium flame. Add the garlic and saute 1 minute. Remove from the heat and stir in remaining vinegar. Cool to room temperature.

Combine the oil mixture, tahini and water in a blender and process until smooth. Stir in the scallions. In a large bowl combine the cauliflower, green beans and arame. Add the dressing and toss well to coat. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Preparation 25 minutes. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Arame is a flavorful sea vegetable (veg-speak for seaweed, but don't be scared) that imparts a rich, savory taste to this dish. Try it lightly

stir-fried in sesame oil and tossed with pasta, too. Arame is available at most natural food stores.

Recipe for cauliflower-green bean

salad with arame is from Deborah Friedman Chud's "The Gourmet Prescription for Low-carb Cooking," Bay Books, 1999, \$19.95.

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Put bounty of fresh fruit to good use

BY BEVERLY BUNDY
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

There's bad news and then there's bad news about our eating habits.

First, we eat too much fat and sugar and too many processed foods that gum up the works and settle on the debit side of our bottom line.

Second, we don't eat enough of the good stuff — the fruits and vegetables that make our smile pretty and our hair shiny.

Summer is a good time to tackle the second part of the equation. Produce stands pour out a bounty of peaches and melons and cherries, oh my. Get in the habit now when fruit is everywhere, and it should be second nature in the colder months when our choices are a little more limited.

As for the bottom line, well, you'll need to talk among yourselves about that.

These meal-in-hand breakfast calzones are a terrific way to start the day. Prepared ahead of time and stored in the freezer, all it takes is 12 to 15 minutes of reheating while you're in the shower, and you've got a hot breakfast for the road.

GRAB-AND-GO BREAKFAST CHERRY CALZONE

16-ounce package hot roll mix
2 cups pitted and halved fresh sweet cherries
½ cup sugar
2 tablespoons lemon juice
1 teaspoon grated lemon peel
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
4 ounces low-fat cream cheese
½ teaspoon almond extract
3 tablespoons toasted sliced almonds
2 tablespoons milk
Cinnamon sugar, optional
Prepare hot roll mix according to package directions. Combine

cherries, sugar, lemon juice, lemon peel and cinnamon. In a separate bowl, mix cream cheese and almond extract.

Divide dough into 8 equal pieces. Flatten into 6-inch rounds. Spoon ¼ cup cherry mixture onto one half of each round.

Top with 1 tablespoon cream cheese and approximately 1 teaspoon almonds. Fold dough in half and seal edges.

Pierce tops with a fork to allow steam to escape. Brush with milk; sprinkle each with ½ teaspoon cinnamon sugar, if desired.

Bake at 350 degrees about 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown. Makes 8.

Cinnamon sugar: Mix ¼ cup sugar and 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon.

Storage tip: Cool and freeze calzones in freezer-safe plastic

bags or aluminum foil. Reheat at 350 degrees 12 to 15 minutes when ready to serve.

CREAMY PEACH DIP

1 cup pureed frozen peaches
¼ cup light sour cream
1 tablespoon honey
½ teaspoon almond extract
Combine all ingredients; mix well.

Refrigerate until served. Serve with fresh fruit as dippers. Makes 1 ¼ cups.

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Quick Lemon Mixes

KNIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

Citron au chocolat. Mix 1 cup chocolate syrup and 1 1/2 quarts reconstituted frozen lemonade concentrate. Chill until very cold; serve over ice, sprinkled with chocolate shavings, if desired.

Don't say no until you've tried it. The chocolate flavor is not that pronounced. It mellows the lemonade and makes for a smooth, almost creamy, drink.

Pink apple lemonade. Combine cranberry juice cocktail, apple juice and 1 (12-ounce) frozen lemonade concentrate. Stir in 1/2 cup water and 1/4 freshly squeezed lime juice.

Almond and lime lemonade. Combine 4 cups cold water; 1 (12-ounce) can frozen lemonade concentrate, thawed; 1 (6-ounce) can orange juice concentrate, thawed; 2 (6-ounce) cans pineapple juice, 1/2 cup freshly squeezed lime juice, 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract.

Rum runner's lemonade. Combine 1 (10-ounce) can frozen tropical fruit mixer concentrate, thawed; 1 (12-ounce) can frozen lemonade concentrate, thawed; 4 1/2 cups cold water and 1 1/2 cups dark rum.

Serve over ice, or put 1 cup mixture in blender with ice and blend until drink becomes slushy. Serve immediately.

Source: "Lemonade" (Harvard Common Press, \$10.95).

Lemon tree very pretty

Lemon lore. The lemon is native to Asia, but by the time of the Crusades, it had spread into the Middle East. Christian warriors brought the lemons back with them from their campaigns, leaving a trail of seeds through Europe. Christopher Columbus gets the credit for bringing the lemon to the New World.

History of the first lemonade is fuzzy. One story is that Queen Isabella served Columbus lemonade when he approached her about financing his voyage. Others put lemonade's beginnings in Paris in the 1600s, when a sharp drop in the price of sugar encouraged people to use it in new ways, and lemonade was born.

Varieties. The two major varieties of lemons are the Lisbon and the Eureka. They are so similar that even experts cannot always tell them apart. A third variety, the slightly less acidic Meyer lemon, is grown in many back yards in the Western states. Since it does not ship well, it is not grown commercially.

An industry is born. It took the California Gold Rush of 1849 to establish a commercial lemon industry in the United States. The California miners found that this excellent source of Vitamin C was important to keep them healthy. It's amazing to know that the lemon was so prized that they sold for more than a dollar apiece more than 150 years ago.

Sources: Sunkist and "Lemonade" (Harvard Common Press, \$10.95).

Lemon tricks

Selecting. When purchasing

lemons, look for smooth skin with no blemishes. They should feel heavy for their size.

Stock up. It's OK to stock up on lemons in bulk. Uncut ones keep well in the refrigerator for up to a month.

Juicing. Bring the fruit to room temperature before juicing. Even better, warm in the microwave 10-20 seconds to make the juice flow.

Gently roll the fruit on a counter-top to loosen fibers before juicing, cut it in half crosswise and use a reamer to squeeze out the juice.

Citrus juice freezes well. If you're freezing it to prepare lemonade later, freeze it in 1-cup portions. For other uses, pour juice into an ice cube tray.

When frozen, empty the tray into a plastic bag and store in the freezer.

An average lemon produces about 3 tablespoons of juice. One pound of lemons, about five medium, yields about 1 cup of juice.

Garnishing. To make lemon garnishes, use a channel knife to remove long, thin strips of rind or a citrus zester for thin threads of peel.

Zesting. To grate lemon zest, use the smallest holes on a cheese grater or use a microplane zester.

Like juice, zest also freezes well.

Sources: "Lemonade" (Harvard Common Press, \$10.95) and "The Food Lover's Tiptonary" (Hearst Books, \$15).

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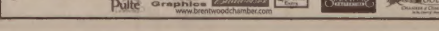
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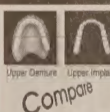
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** Plan covers first diagnosis of internal cancer or melanoma only. Plan benefits vary by state. This is a Supplemental Cancer Only policy.

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United American's Cash Benefit Cancer Plan can help.

HOLMQUIST INSURANCE SERVICE

UNITED AMERICAN CONCORD BRANCH

1849 Willow Pass Rd., #209

Concord, CA 94520

925-798-4006

UNITED AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY

This policy has some limitations and exclusions. * Plan pays according to contract.

** This is a solicitation for insurance and you will be contacted by a sales agent.

Agent representing United American Insurance Company. This is not a contract.